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# HISTORY OF

## CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

By

Paul Busey

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SIGNATUR COUNTY, ILLIAND

Paul Busuy

By Paul Dusey, Beginning October 7, 1932 and running weekly----Urbana Courier, Urbana, Illinois.

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CHAPTER I

Early Illinois History

In order to have a true background for the early history of our of the county, let us review briefly the early history of our state, leading up to the creation of Champaign County. For a proper understanding of its true greatness, let us make a few comparisons. England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with an aggregate population of 29,321,000 in all, have but little more than twice the number of square miles contained in Illinois. It is larger than Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont together, Massachusetts and New York together, and has more square miles than Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Chio.

Following the arrival of Father Jaques Marquette, a French Jesuit Priest and missionary, in what is now Illinois, during the year 1875, together with his good friend Louis Joliet, we find them exploring the Wisconsin and Arkansas rivers. The Indians showing marked hostility, they started the return to Canada, but arrived at the mouth of the Illinois river, turned their canoes up that stream, ascended the river as far as the head of the Des Plaines, thence to the Chicago river, and thus reached Lake Michigan. These then were the first white men to visit the present site of Chicago. After traveling over the states of Illinois and Wisconsin, Marquette established a mission in the La Salle county on the present site of Utica, established

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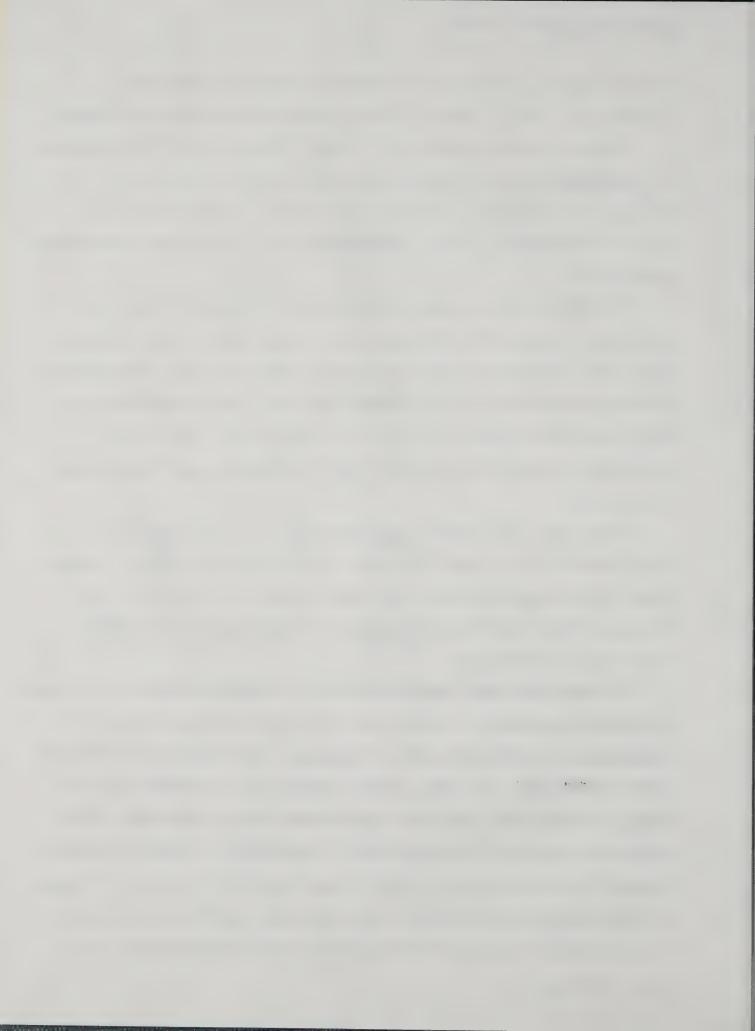
the Fort of St. Louis on the Illinois river in 1680, thms Insuring the fort of hold in the territory now known an Illinois.

the strongest fortress on the western continent, near the village of Markhakir on the Militain Diver. This decree the sert of government and the headquarters of a large and fashronnole population.

In 1732, Frame declared Louisiana, of which the present territory occupied by Illinois was a part, free to all its subjects and all restrictions to commerce were merced. Mourishing settlements opens up all around Taskaskin, the imministrate of which were exclusively devoted to agriculture. Until 1765, emigrants rapidly flowed into these settlements, and the country flourished.

Then came the French and Indian war. By the treaty of Fountainbleau the French holdings in what is now Illinois passed into English control under the jurisdiction of Virginia. In Cotober, 1778, the Virginia assembly designated the territory the County of Illinois.

In the year 1800 the territory of Indians, was formed, of which Illinois constituted a part, with the sent of government at Vincennes. In 1809, by act of congress, the territory of Illinois was constituted. In April, 1818, Illinois was admitted to the Union, and the next year the legislature not at Easterstin, and selected Vandalia as the control of the atute. It was afterward recoved to Springfield in 1820. From this being recital of facts in the history of Illinois it will be seen that it has in turn been part of the empire of France and Great Britan with Spain as a claiment.

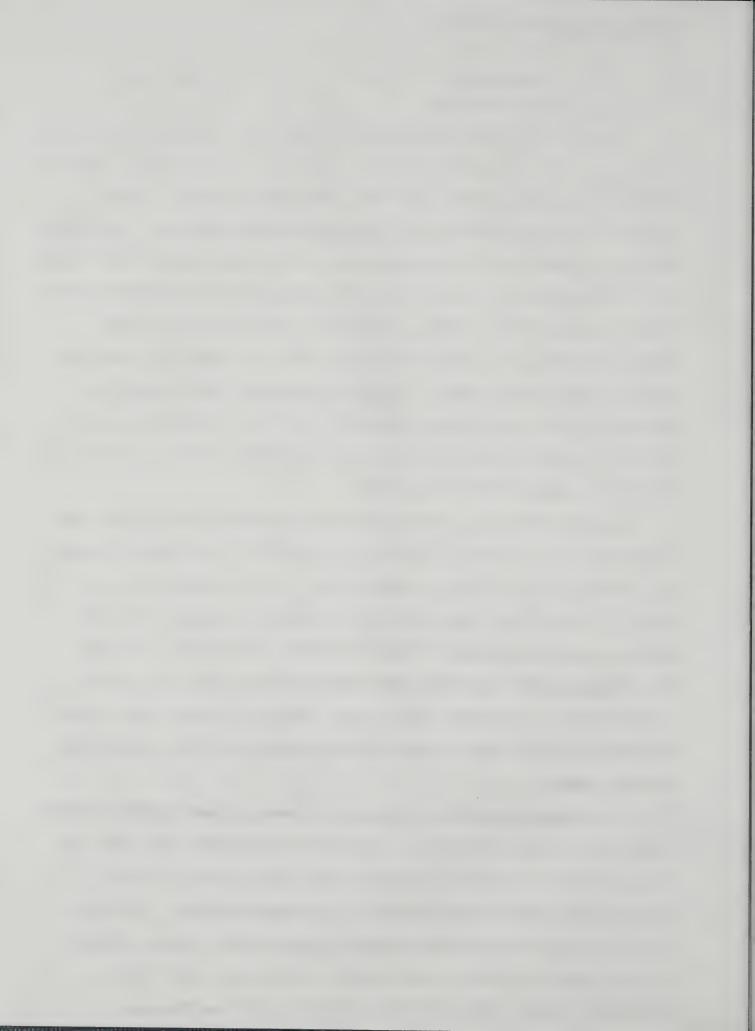


#### CHAPTER II Indian Occupancy

county and adjoining counties was the home of the Rickapos Indians, having been held by them for more than fifty years. Those Indians had happy villages in the currounding territory, the neighborhood of the Tanah in transport county; another on both sides of the Vermillion rare where it joined the Wabash. Higher up the Vermillion were other villages, one being four siles must of Hanville, more the mouth of the Missle Fork. This neighborhood was require to contain a very rich copper wind, of which the Indians were contained passed to contain it.

In 1819 when by a treaty between the United States and the Michapoes, this part of Illinois was coded to the United States, it deaned to be an Indian possession. A short time later, a part of this tribe, known as the Michapoo Indians of the Vermillion, made a separate treaty with the government, by which the Indians ceded by medos and boynds all the land at present occupied by the castern part of the county of Champaign, all of Vermillion county and a part of Ford county, to the government, moving weet.

The true picherrs of this, as of every other American state, were the American Indians. It is inter-sting to note that at the pattlement west of Danville there are remains of one of the largest Indian cometeries in the Tabach valley. Although the land has been in cultivation for over fifty years, selden a year goes by without arrow heads, atone axes, fun Ilinta, . knives or silver tripleto being turned up in the farrows.

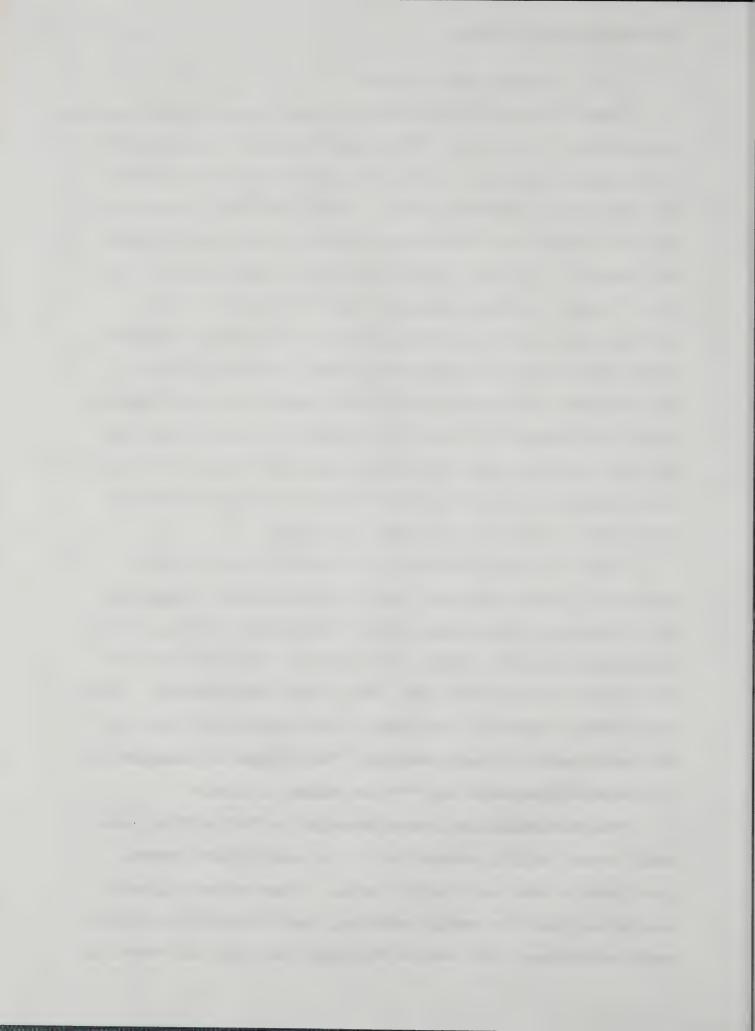


#### Indiana Wero Warliko

neighbors of the whites. They fought in great numbers and with frenzied courage, keeping the settlements in Illinois and Indians in constant polls. Their principal to me were on the Illinois and Wermillion rivers of the Wahnsh valley, and finally, a great village near what is well known as "Old Torn" timber in Keisean County. The inhabitants of this willage were verticularly dangerous to the piecest settlers, making frequent and exasperating raids, nurdering when and children, to say nothing of the lessest crimes of burning houses and stealing houses. Not until the close of the war of 1312 did they couse hostilities and move west. Even them the Fishappers of the Vermillion remained in this territory until 1832, when they emigrated to Kansas.

Altho the early settlers of Chargei n county found a mumber of Indian villages, the Indians occupying these were not Tickapoos, but members of the Pottowateric tribes. These werriors were tall, fierce and haughty. They were divided into four clans, Colden Carp, Frog. Crab and Tortoise. Their brads would separate, and unite in the hunting of grass and in the pursuit of their enemies. The English translation of the word Pothawatoric is, "We are making a fire."

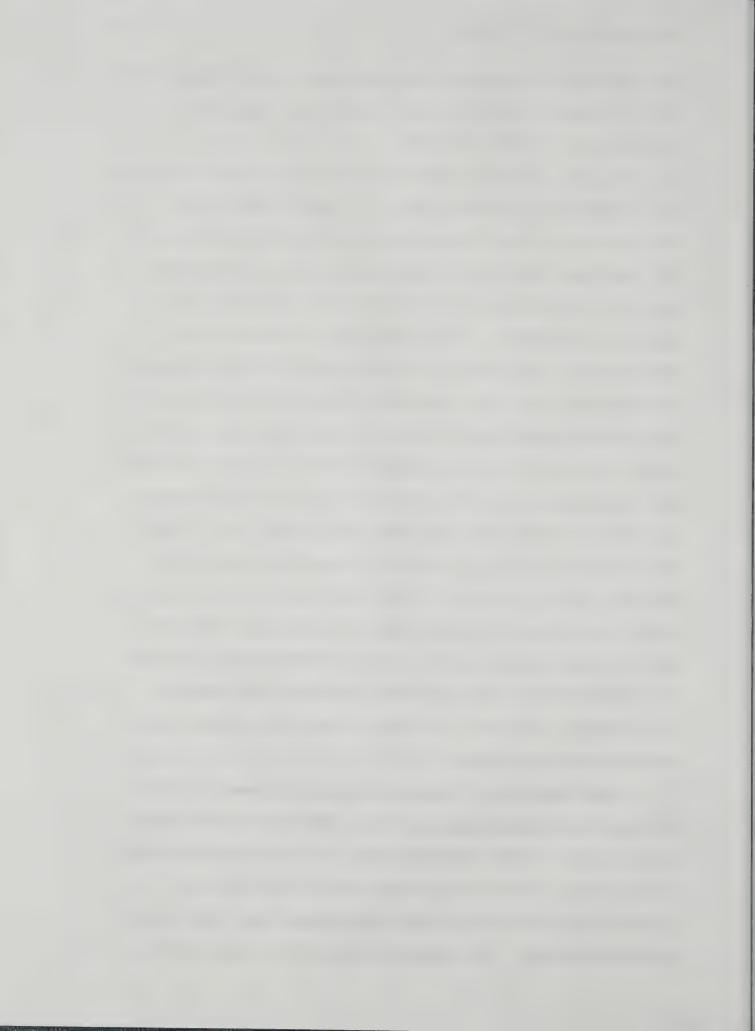
The Pottawatomies always traveled in Indian file, upon well beaten trails, connecting by the most direct routes, prominent points and trading posts. These native highways served as guides to early sottlers, who followed them with an much confidence as we now do the roads laid out and marked by



divindred non. In whot, the fort Clara musi, keer anville to Nort Charke, now known as Peoula, was originally a thoroware for Indian traffic.

The site of Urbana seems to have been a favorite camping around for the Pottowatonies. Later, when other settlors came, they found many well beaten trails comes the prairies, but the spring situated on approximately the site of the Flat Iron building in Usbana, was the greatest attraction. This furnished an abundance of fresh water, and with the creek now known as the Pouryand, adjoining and the big grove furnishing an abundance of game, they camed there even for years after the first white settlers had taken up their abode. Indian trinkets and ornaments were often picked up in that neighborhood and when the Mat Iron bullding was erected, an Indian body was dug up, suggesting the presence of an Indian burying ground. As late as 1838 the corn hills of the Indian occupants of Urbana were found not far from the propent court house square. Harly settlers tell us that the Boneyard took its name from the bleached ones of many animals slain by the Indians alon; its banks, while coming to it for water.

Indians for a great manyyears was evidenced by the fact that a chief of the Pottowatanies, one Shewanger by name, better known to the early settlers as "Old Soldier," returned to this spot as his birth place many time of the sequent to 1834. He claimed to have been born under a



Eline's store now stands on Hain Street. This cabin was afterwards moved to Crystal Lake Park, and has recently been destroyed. In 1831 he came with 18 or 20 other Inlies and winters on the root side of the grove, three miles north of Urbana.

Mother feverite coming that for Sharager and his braves was on the clay bank, situated on the creek at the north end of the grove. Shemauger was 75 years of age in 1832, when subsequent to the Black Hawk War, he emigrated with his equar and paposes to the far west. He cometimes came in company with a large part of his tribe, and sometimes only with his family, and would remain in camp for months along the creek. One early settler living near the clay bank tells of paying frequent visits to the camp, fearing nothing. He tells of the braves cutting with their tomahawks, holes in two nearby trees, into which holes they inserted poles out the proper length. These poles made a huge laduer reaching to a great height. Up this ladder they would climb on arm nights to escape the heat and the mosquitoes, peacefully reolining among the top of the trees, while their equans were engaged in their demestic duties below.

Chapter III

Land Survey of Champaign County--1821-1822.

In order fully to understand the early surveys and methods of taking title to land by the early settlers,



it is necessary to review the cystem used by the United States Government in its surveys:

conding line running exactly both and both, accounted by extremented measurements, and upon a "tradard parallel," or base line, running last and fort, civilarly established. Similar lines parallel to these are run overy six miles, and thus the auxince of the earth is divided into six equare miles Borth and Louth and six miles Fast and West, each containing thirty-six equare miles or sections. These sections are further divided by meridians and parallel into halves, and each of these into thirds, making a meridian a parallel every mile. By dividing these miles into halves, the points are established for dividing the section into quarter sections.

The square of thirty-six miles are termed "townships" and each tier of them Bast and West is manbered either B. or S., from the base line, and each tier of them B. or S. is termed a range, and either numbered E. or W. from the meridian. The W. and S. lines bordering the townships are known as "range lines," and the E. and W. as "township lines."

The sections in any given township are numbered beginning with section 1 at the north-east corner of the township, running thence across and back until the 36th is reached at the southeast corner.

Thus, for instance the designation of Urbana Township at T. 183, R. St. of 3rd P.M., means that Urbana township



is the nineteenth township north of the base line, and in the ninth zeroe cost of the Third Principal Meridian.

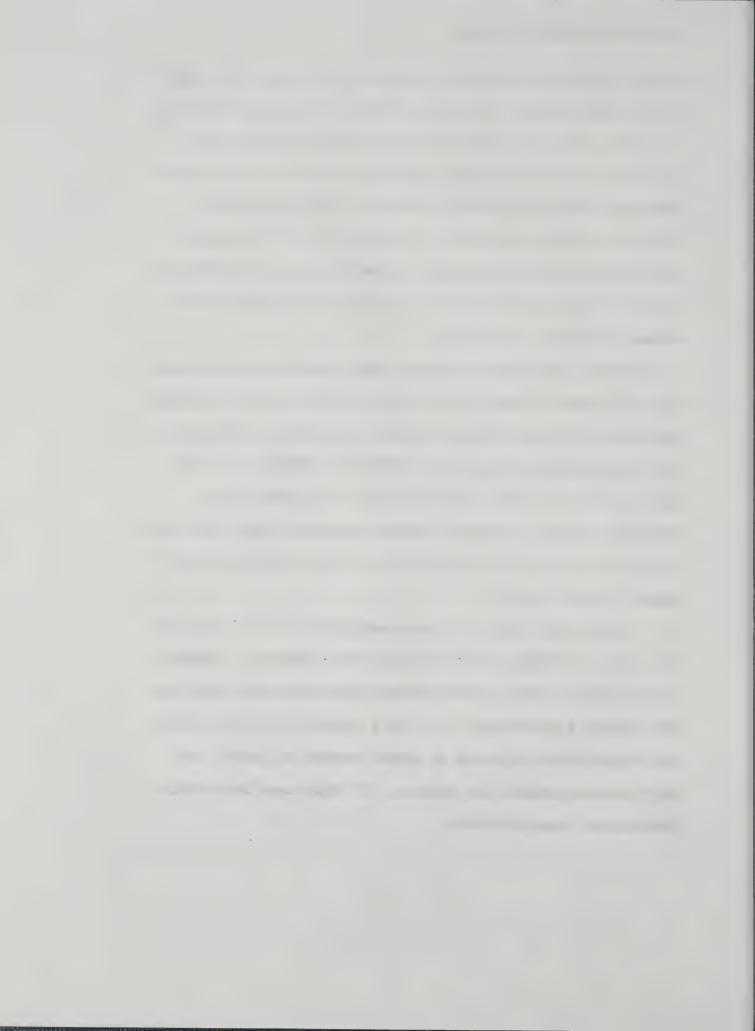
The principal part of Urbana being in Sections

7, 8, 17 and 18 of Urbana township means that they are
the toper four left bend sections. The designation

NV 1-4 of NV 1-4 of Sec. 6, 70. 30 N. N. O E. would,
therefore, mean 40 acres in the extrace upper left hand
corner of the section in the extrace upper left hand
corner of Urbana township.

In 1823, the year in which the first surveyors came to what is now Charpaign County, all the land at present occupied by Clark, Coles, Edgar, Vermillion, Charpaign and Iroquois counties, was within the limits of Clark county, which in its turn had been separated from Granford county. Whether these surveyors were the first white men to set foot within the limits of Charpaign County is not known.

It was the duty of these surveyors to fix and mark the lines dividing the townships and sections, running their lines a mile apart through the woods and prairies and across the streams, at right angles to each other, and where these crossed to erect mounds of earth and bury charred sticks or stones. If this was impossible, they marked nearby trees.



At the time these surveys were made, the townships were designated by number out not by none, one minumity the first to be surveyed were those convenient to crising train. As the only large trail member through the territory at that time can into the present county from the north-east, these eastern there of tempoline were surveyed first.

The two eastern tiers, known as Amges 10 and 14 Fast, were surveyed by deputy surveyors in the year 1801, while the rest of the townships in the present county were surveyed in 1822. Between Ranges 10 and 14 Fast occurs a narrow irregular strip about a mile wide, running North and South through the Fastern part of the county. This is known as Hange 11 East, and was caused by one group of surveyors surveying Range 14 in the Lastern part of the county, and another group surveying the Western tiers of townships.

It is interesting to know that in the County Clerk's office in Urbana, the county seat, the original "Eurycy Records" copied from the records in the General Land Office faithfully show every pond, every stream, and every grove of timber in its exact justion and proportion. When the first settlers arrived, they found the abandoned camp fires of the surveyors where the section and township corners had been marked. These water color plates show the timber tracts, the pends, streams and open prairie just as they appeared to Runsel Fielder, William Compkins and Henry Sadorus, a few years later.



CHAPTER IV

THE FIRST WITTE SETTING

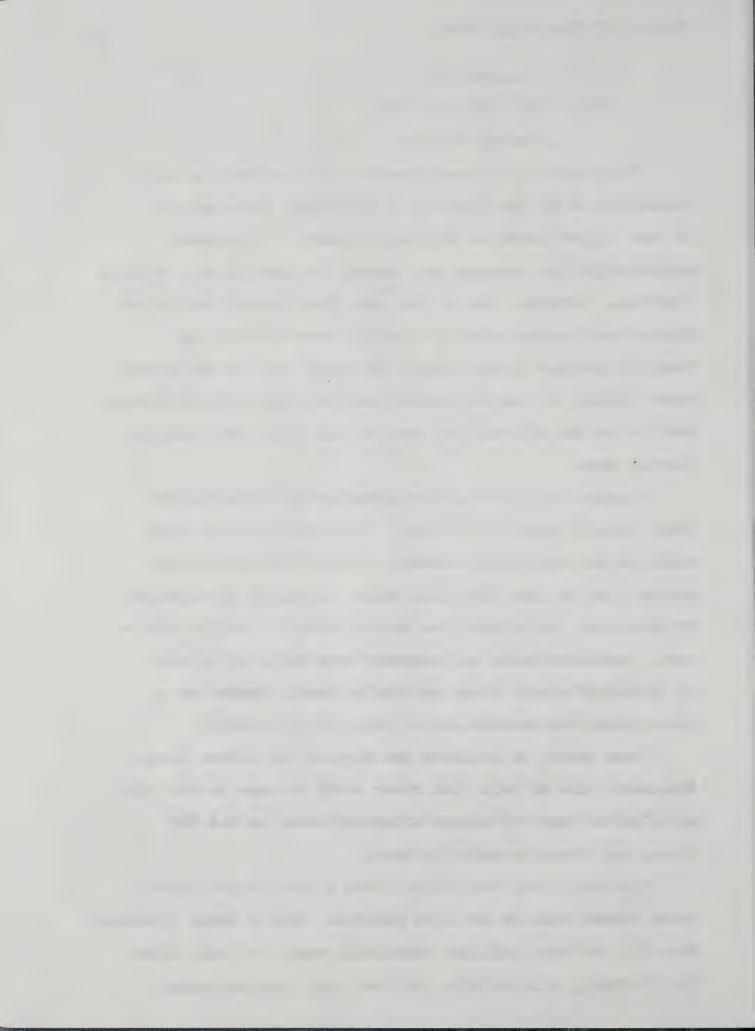
1- manor Froider

historians as to the identity of the first thite settler in what is now known as Charpaign County. This heads undoubtedly lies between one, Runnel Fielder and one, William Tompkins. However, Que to the fact that Fielder settled at the extreme exetern edge of the Big Grove timber, and Tompkins settled farther along the creek with in the timber tract itself, it may be assumed that he found Fielder already settled on his arrival, and took up his residence a little farther west.

found himself upon his arrival. After some four or five weeks on the road from Kentucky, for it is generally accepted that he came from that state, traveling by wagon or by horosback, he entered the present county from the noutheast, tradition tells us, stopping over night at a tract of timber afterward known as Lyan's Grove, located on a stream near the south-eastern limits of the county.

From there, he followed the edge of the timber along the south side of Salt Fork river until he came to the edge of a larger tract of timber afterward known as the Big Grove, and there he made his home.

The reader may ask why he chose a home in the timber tract rather than on the open prairie. Such a tract furnished him with shelter, building materials, wood for fuel, owing for clothing, wild aminals for food, and abundant water.



consisting of a large number of children, as was council in those dego. As near as we can figure, his cabin consisted of a building ten feet in diameter, built of rough logs of rather poles, such as he call his featly could handle; a dirt floor, no windows, a firsplace made of sticks and clay, and a door of split logs.

crock, at the extreme eastern oute of a timber tract extending north of his cabin some four miles, and went
approximately the same distance. This grove consisted
of virgin oak, hickory, sugar maple and other timber.
His nearest neighbors were a small settlement of Pottovatoric Indians located on the present site of Urbana,
four miles west.

numel Fielder did not our the land on which he located in the year \_\_\_\_ but was at first a squatter upon the public domain as were all of the early settlers in the county prior to 1827. It is easy to understand that although any of the land could have been bought for \$1.25 per acre from the government, it meant a long and dangerous trip to the land office a hundred miles away to register his title and become the owner in fee simple of his home. On the other hand, he had little fear at that time of any other settler disputing his claim.

<sup>\*</sup> The year shown in notes is "1882" which must be an error.

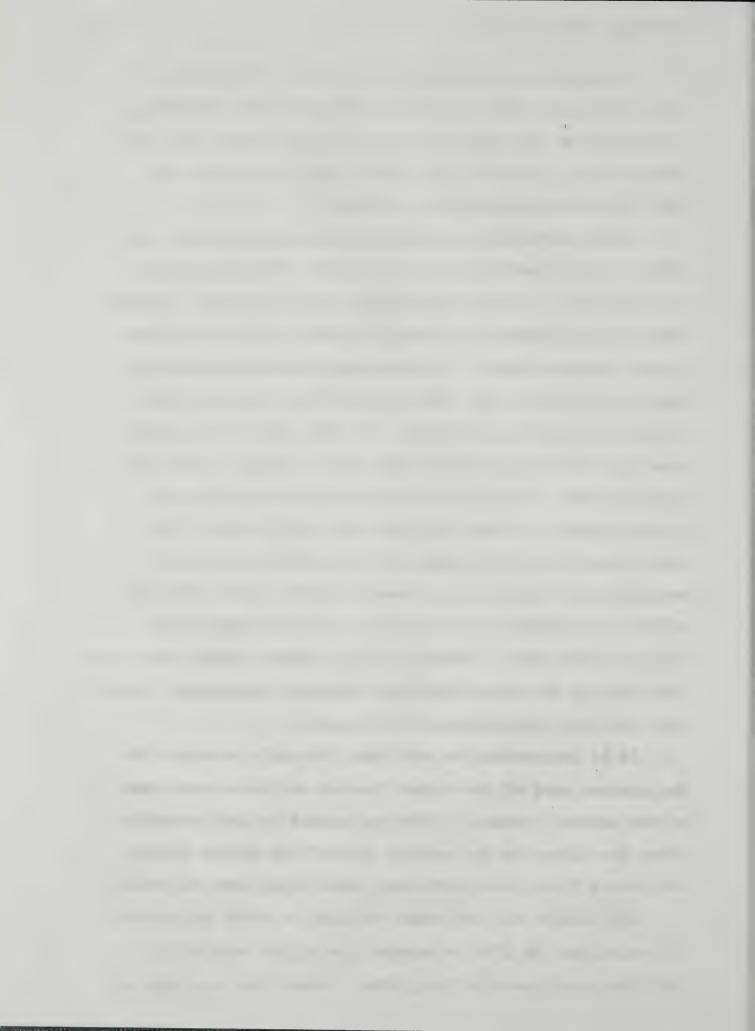


It is easier to unberstoud the remot other picusors came later, lured here by the accounts of early settlers, and cheered by the commissions ip of their fellows, but the lengthness and harded a of Fielder and To phins for the next five years can only be imagined.

Net us digrees for a coment and see that were the conditions in the territory now commised by Champian exenty in their time: In the northwestern part, there was a timber tract come eighteen miles long, following what is now known as the Cangemon river. In the extreme north-eastern part was a timber tract some twelve miles long following what is now known as the Salt Fork. In the center was a grove some six niles long by four niles wide, along a branch of the Salt Fork. This last extended from the present site of Hain street in Urbana on the south, to the midlie of Somer township on the north, and from the tipber tract consisting of virgin timber recently purchased by the University of Illineis on the east, to the city limits or Urbana on the west. Two wither small timber tracts, one along the Ckaw and the other along the Mabarras (pronounced "Ambraw") completed the forestration of the county.

It is interesting to note that the early surveys show the greater part of the timber located on the eastern side of the several streams. This was caused by the protection given the timber on the eastern side of the stream during the forest fires, the prevailing winds being from the west.

Hr/ Fielder did not enter the land on which he erected his oabin, but in 1838 he entered the eighty east of it, the first entry made in the grove. About the pare year he



for several years. It was driven by a wooden been pulled in a circle by horse power, and operated two granite boulders between which the grain was ground. His con. Charles taught school in the Brownfield neighborhood in 1883. Durnel Fielder with his family, enignated to lear in 1831, solling out their claim to Isaac Dupey.

## See Ser Ser Continto

The same year Examel Fielder settled east of what is now Urbana, William Tempkins settled on the branch of the Salt Fork running through the present site of Urbana, the exact location of the cabin being on the east side of the creek, back of the Urbana Courier office. His cabin was the first located in Urbana, and was still standing and in use in 1855, having been subsequently purchased by Isaac Busey. According to the account given by an old settler who spent many a night in the cabin, it was roughly made of oak logs, and was from twelve to fourteen feet square. There were no nails, hinges, glass or locks used in its construction.

The cabin was built as follows: Large logs were placed in position as sills, on these were placed strong sleepers or cross poles, and on these sleepers were laid the puncheons, being rough herm slabs of trees to serve as floors. The logs were them built up until the proper height for the caves was reached; then on the ends of the building were placed poles longer than the other end poles, which projected some eighteen or more inches over the sider, and were called

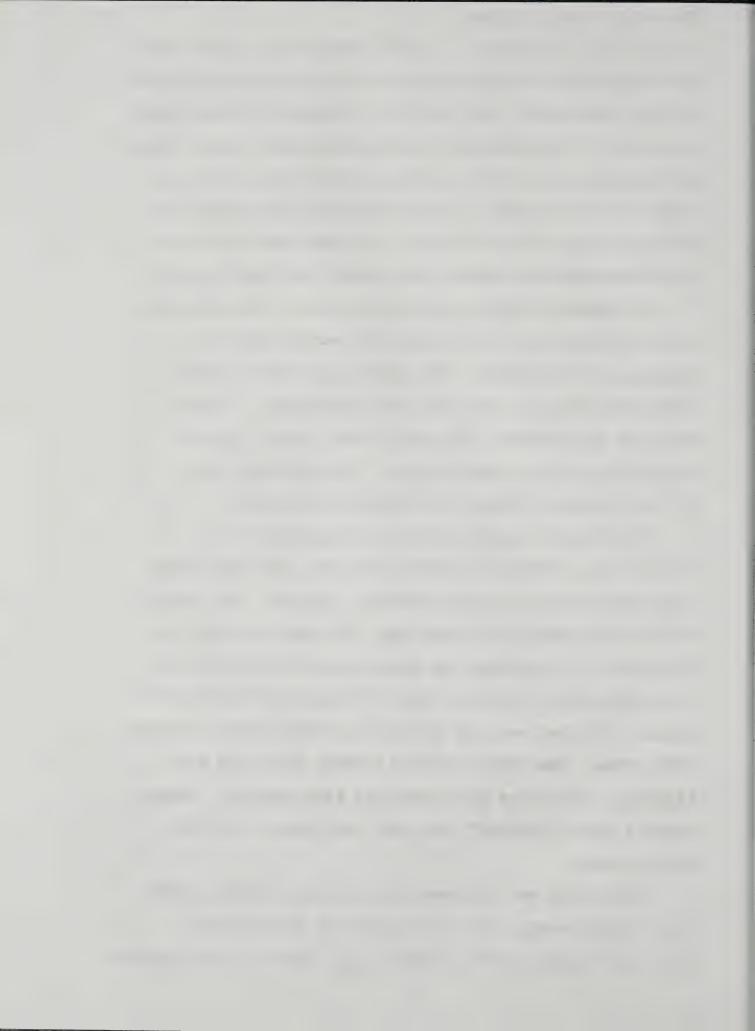
"butting pole aleebers." On the projecting ends of these were placed the "butting poles," thich nurved on each side to give the line to the first raw of beards or alobe used as a roof. These were, of course, split, and as the pables of the cabin can built as, were so laid on as to lip a third of their length. A heavy pole was laid excess the roof parallel to the ridge pole, to keep them in place.

The house was then chinical and doubed with clay and had.

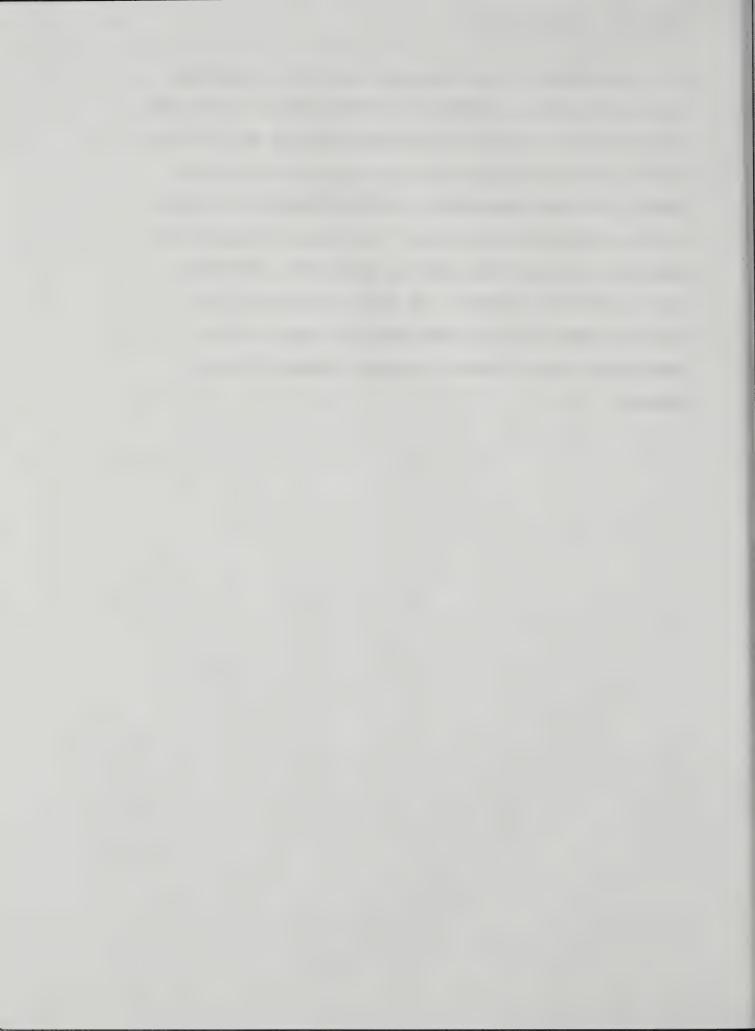
The huge fireplace built in one end of the house was made of class arenes and sticks. It served both for cooking and for warmth. The ceiling was covered with skine of animals to help keep the cabin warm. Holes were cut for windows, but were without glass, greased cloth being used to supply light. The door was made of log slabs, and hinged with pieces of leather.

The furniture consisted of a large purchase or slab of cak, flattened on the usper side, and with four legs driven into it at the corners. (Table) The seats were stools made in the same way. The bedstead made in the form of a long box, was swung up against one side of the cabin during the day, thus affording more room in the cabin. The bed was made of leaves or corn shucks covered with skins. Home dipped tallow candles were used for lighting, the tallow being obtained from animals. Wooden vessels named "noggens" were used for bowle, and forks were a rarity.

This cabin was the scene of the first circuit court held in the county, and the seat of the deliberating over the location of the county west. Later on the crection



of a new cabin by Isaac lusty was used as a carpenter shop, and later as a stable for "Uncle Lilly" Part's cow. The new cabin of Eusey's afterward known as the Wilkinson cabin, stood where Kline's store new stands on Main Ptreet, and was subsequently moved to Grystal Lake Park, but has since been term down. The homes of Fielder and Tompkins developed into train; posts of a sort with the neighboring Indians. At that time Fielder and Tompkins were the only white settlers between the settlements on the Wabash river and those in McLean County.



By Judge Joseph O. Cueninghan Puo. by the limit of a cultury, 1982.

Pp. 853-855 Quote at randum:

### "ADANDONED CHUTERIES."

Avenue, was never a plotted constary, but burials were made there early in the '30's, the ground then being a dense thicket of small timber and brush. Thus upo of the ground continued for forty years. Nominents and stones were set up promiseusually, only to be removed with the remaining dust of such bodies as were removed to other places of interment, when the authorities of Urbanu, moved by sanitary considerations, prohibited the further use of the ground as a burial place.

yet standing, remained an unsightly waste of weeds and prestrate grave-stones. The city authorities then directed the removal of the remains of such as could be identified, to other cemeteries; and, where no one appeared to care for others, that the stones be burief over the dust they were intended to mark, and that the space be converted into a public park.

A short distance west of "Brownfield's Corners", in Somer township, Sec. 34, is a clump of small trees and brush within which stand a few old marble slabs, the inscriptions upon which bring to mind pioneer families whose members lie buried there. This is an abandoned pioneer cemetery, known formerly as "Ehinehart's Graveyard", for the land



was once owned by Matthias Minchart, and he lies there, correspond by many of his nel phoons, all in unusual and unitarian graves. The first burialsain the notificant were made here, among their boing that of John countrald, a Revolutionary soldier. It is said that the burials here would again one hundred.

Avenue, was never a plotted constary. About one mile north of this point, and upon the south end of the west half of the northwest quarter of Sec. 27, is another pienear barying ground, marked with a small growth of timber. Wear it was built the little church in which worshipped the early church members of 1836. The church has long since disappeared with its early worshippers, many of them lie there in truncked graves; but nothestile plew disturbs the soil where they sleep.

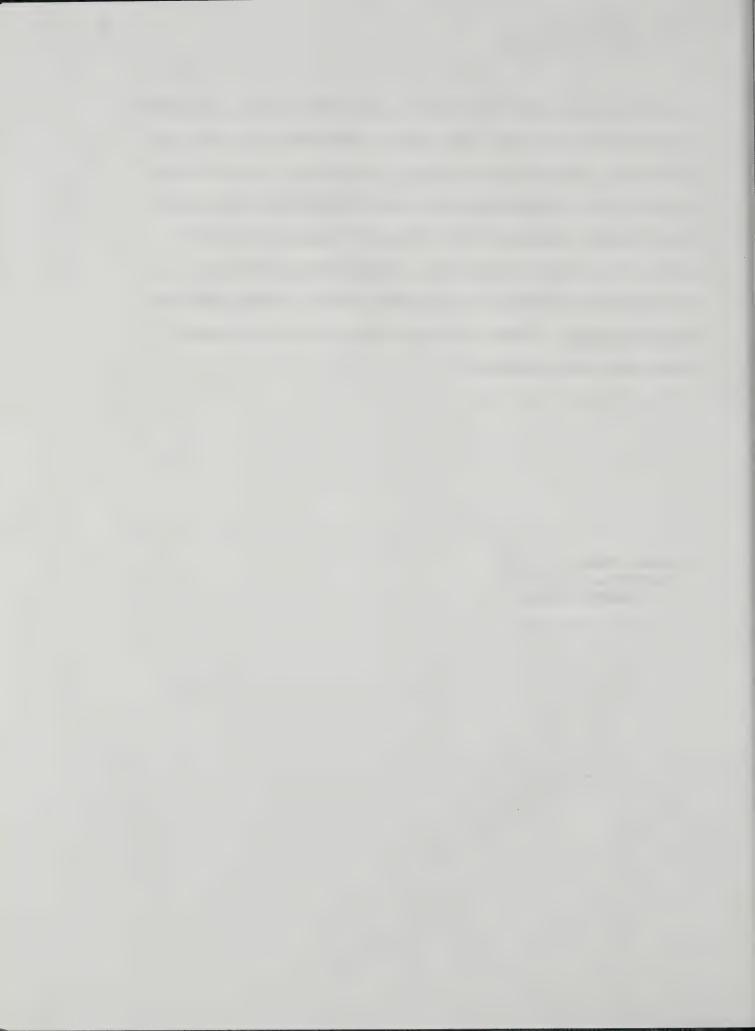
To the northeast of this cemetery last named, 100 rods or more, upon the farm of Henry B. Hill, in Sec. 23, ic another cemetery where rest, in neglected but undisturbed graves, some of the early settlers of the neighborhood. Here, too, a growth of trees protects the graves.

Somer township has yet another abandoned cenetery where were buried many wellknown men of early times. It is known as the "Adkins" Graveyard", and is situated in Sec. 21, upon land once owned by Lemis Adkins, now owned by T. B. Thornburn. Gravestones are still standing which bear familiar names, but many are unmarked.

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Cometeries which were long since abandoned as places of investant, in favor of platfor a market of these in Sec. 28, a short distance south of the old village of St. Joseph, contained the bodies of large numbers of planeaus and finit invillage. Acces those mand was Mr. Stayton, father of a numerous family, among them was David Stayton. These grounds, too, are covered with brush and small timber.

(Copied Feb. 6, 1939 for Mrs. Carlock-



Two ATLICS OF PICHERY DAYS RELATE
Hillstones Used by Early Settlers Preserved.

Urbana Courier, Nov. 10, 1938.

Persons frequenting Crystal Lake Fark perhaps have noticed two old fashioned mill stones that lay on the ground a short distance west of the pavillion.

These stones were in use in horse mills nearly 100 years ago, having furnished the grinding power in one of the early day grist mills located in this county.

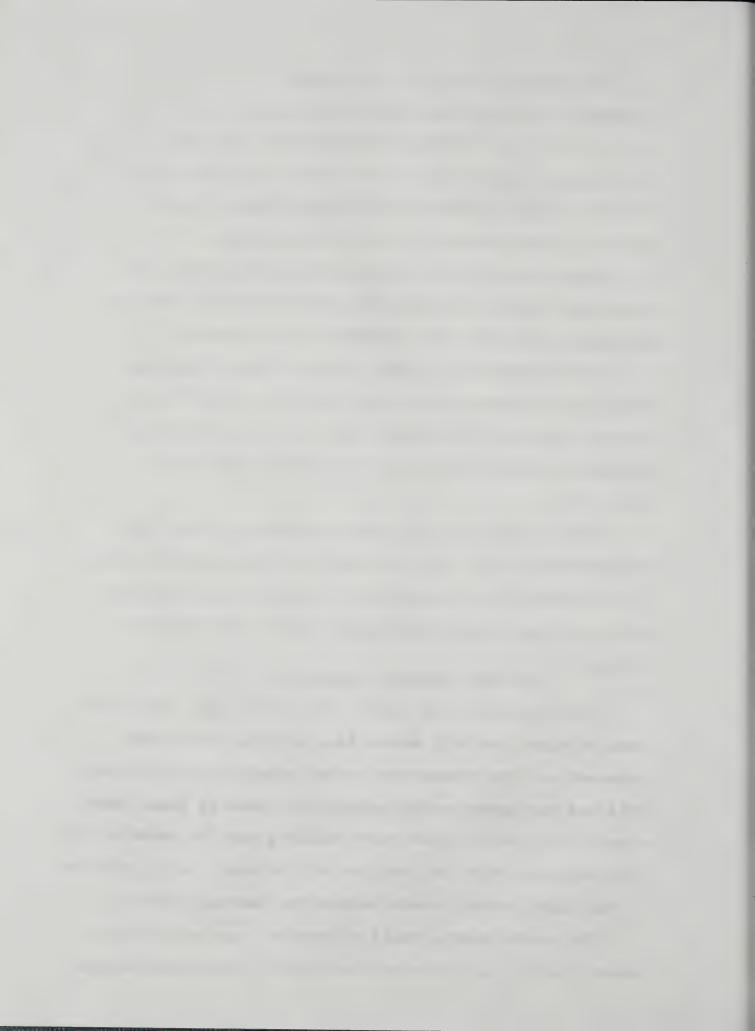
Schn promaticle, in 1835, built a horse propelled will, as an improvement on the hand mill, using those stones, which had been worked out from rough boulders. In 1842 he moved the stones to the creek and built a mater will.

After pioneer milling was sure roaded by steam with the erection of the big Fark mill in Urbana in 1850, these stones passed thru possession of Brownfield descendents until, at last, they were donated to the park board as relics.

Log Cabin Recently Destroyed.

west of where the mill stones lie, also had Mistorical interest and its descruction caused considerable criticism. This was the second cabin creeted in Urbana by Isaac Musey, whose first, built a few years earlier, was the scene of the deliberations over the location of the county seat, and also of the first circuit court session in Champai pa Dounty.

The second cabin, built of massive logs adsed square, stood from the late 30's on the site of the present laights



rolling -

or Pythias building, until 1900, when S. F. Swartz, then owner of Crystal hake park, bought it and moved it to the park as a repository for relies. It was never used for that purpose, however, and finally became regarded as an eye-sere. Instead of moving it to a nore obscure part of the park, someone had it torn down, the logs burned, and thus passed another of the few remaining actual reginders of the infant Champaign county.

### Form Numan Chaleton

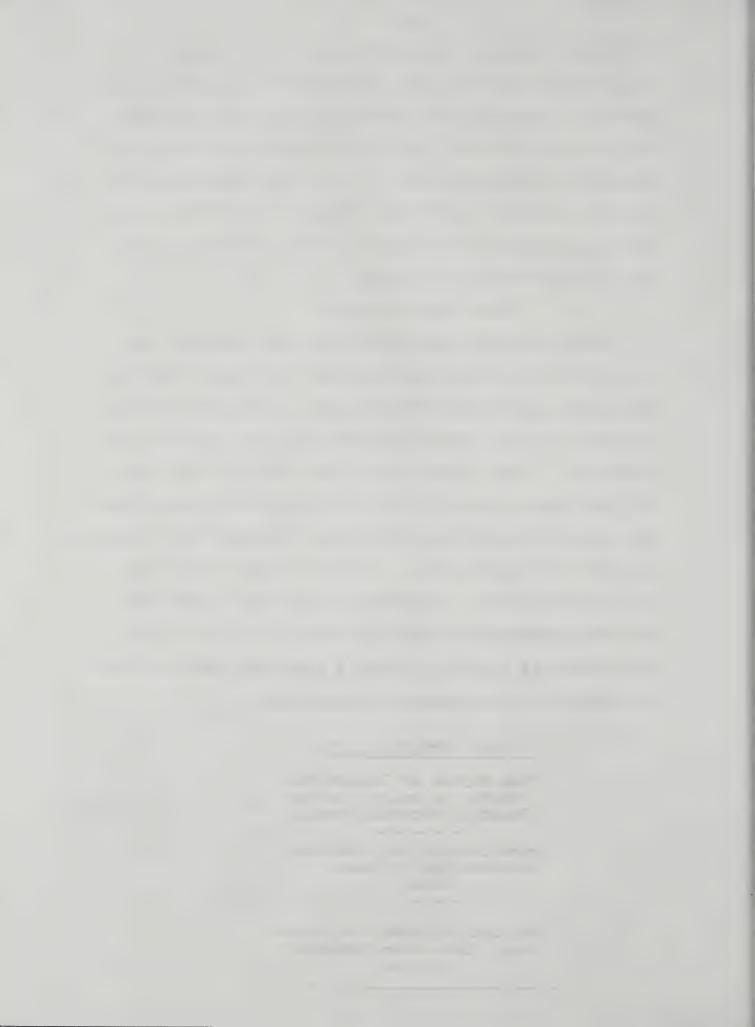
When this cabin was removed from its original site
by Mr. Swartz, a human skeleton was found beneath it, to
the intense excitement of the populace, who immained that
a murder had been committed there years back and the body
concealed. Years later it came out that the fuck Finn
and Tom Sawyer element of the town had put the bones under
the cabin to produce just what their bidcovery did produce—
a thrill for the townfolk. The now famous "Chic" Sale
was in on the hoar. Incidentally, it may be said that
the only person who did not appreciate the joke was the
grandfather of one of the boys, a physician, who was minus
a perfectly good skeleton in consequence.

# FIRST SERVING TO DIE

Was Buried by Indians Who Wanted to Scalp Man Who Deserted Bereaved Family.

Grave Located and Skeleton Disinterred 77 Years Later

Now Rests in Woodlawn Cemetery, With Grave Suitable Marked.



In Vocabers coming there is a grave with a modest beadstone informing him who reads, that it is the last realize place of labor took, the first white now to die in what is now Champaign County.

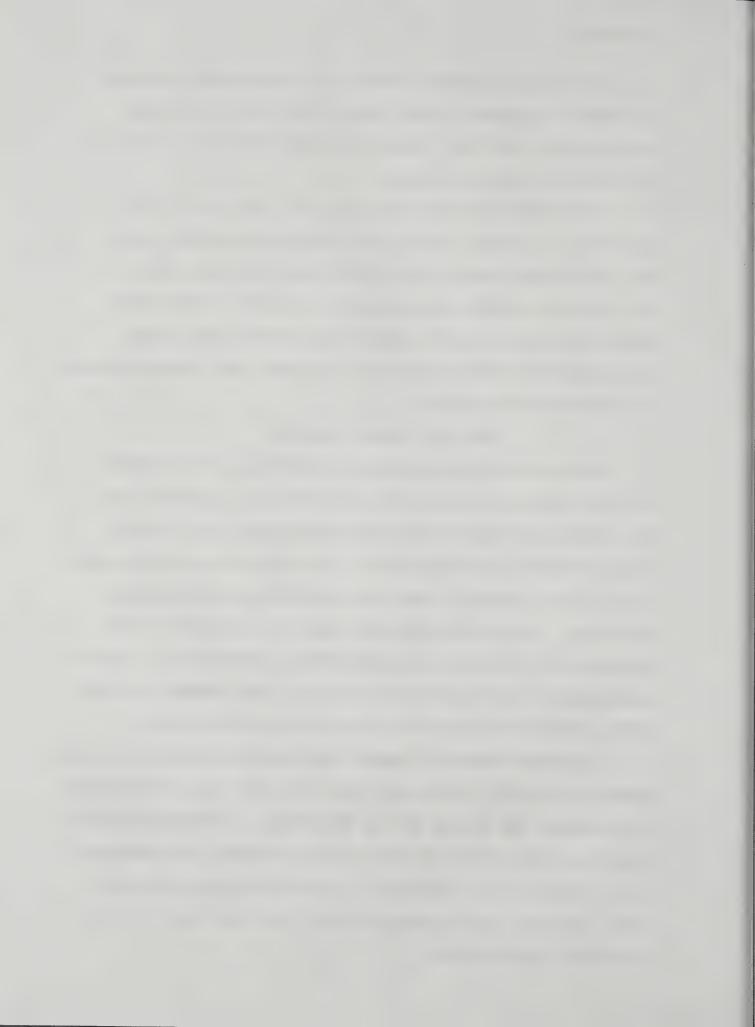
A few hundred yards north of this grave there is a sect that was Cookin garve for bearly eighty years, from the time he was buried by wild Indiana in 1830, until his excluten, still encased in the serments of the sirch back shroud in which the save ou ranged his the corpos, was exhuned in 1807 by the late Dr. Judy, then superintendent of the Woodlawn cemetery.

## Original Grave Usmarked

had left knowledge of its location only in a general way.

The family had come to the wilderness that was then the site of Urbara township now and had settled west of the Big Grove, but, before it could be demiciled, Cook sickened and died. A man who had come with the family from what was then the frontier of civilization, determined to return, and despite the pleadings of the dead man's widow and children, threw the corpse in the snow and started back.

A band of Indians, coming upon the little brood, weeping beside the body, wrapped the body in birch bark, after their own custom, and buried it six feet deep. Indignant at the way Wrs. Cook and her family had been treated, the savages were determined to overtake the brutal deserter and scalp him, and would have carried out the plan had they not been dissuaded by the widow.



Discovered by Chance

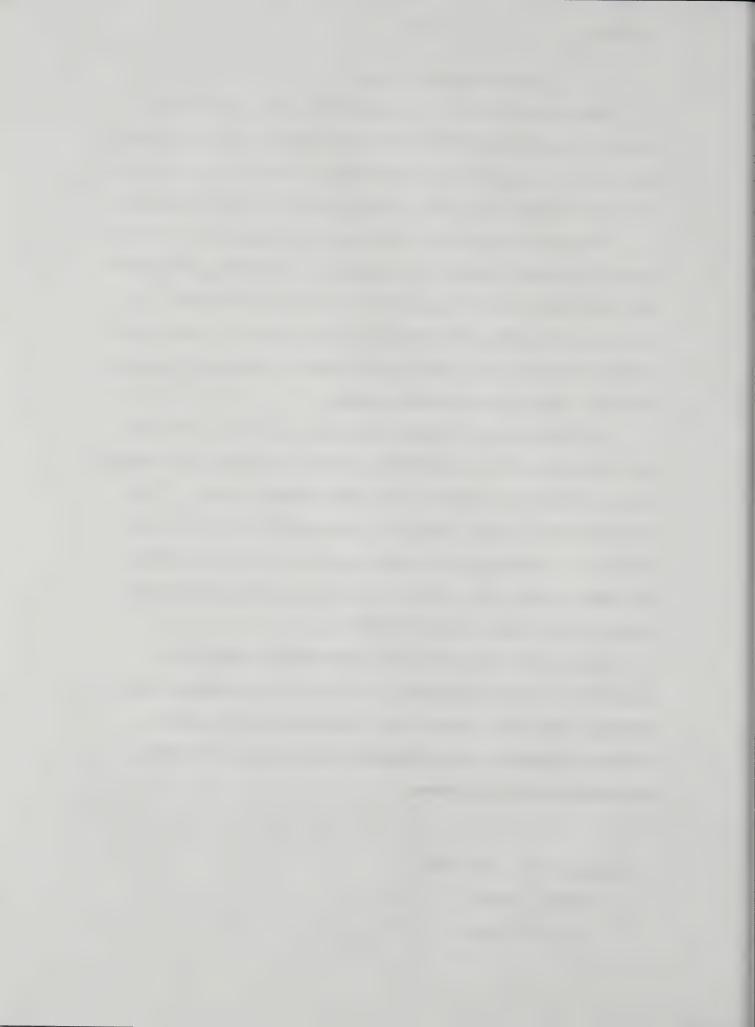
Years passed, and the location of the grave was forgotten as the estilars familiar with it died or moved away, and it was thru on observing planman that historic cost was located and the reviews given fitting requial.

This plowmen noticed that, at a certain spot in the field eljoining Toodharn occupiery on the north, the earth gave evidence of having at one time been disturbed. He informed Dr. Judy, who recalling the story of Tenem Cook's death and burial, as told by the early settlers, decided that the spot marked Cook's grave.

Disting down a little less than six feet, he fours' the skeleten, well preserved, as well as were the portions of the birch bark chroud that had excepted decay. The skeleten was intact, with the exception of the tops and fingers. Checking up historically on the movements of the Gook family, Dr. Judy and others decided that there could be no doubt as to identity.

After the bones had been reverently viewed by numerous persons interested in the early history of the county, they were given final interment in donated cemetery ground, and a suitable marker, also donated, was erected at the grave.

(Copied Dec. 30,1939 by Emily Burks for Mrs. Carlock.)



# LINCOLN PAPERS IN CHARPAIGN COUNTY COURT HOUSE -- ILLIMOIS.

Archives of County Courthouse include Papers Written, Signed by ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

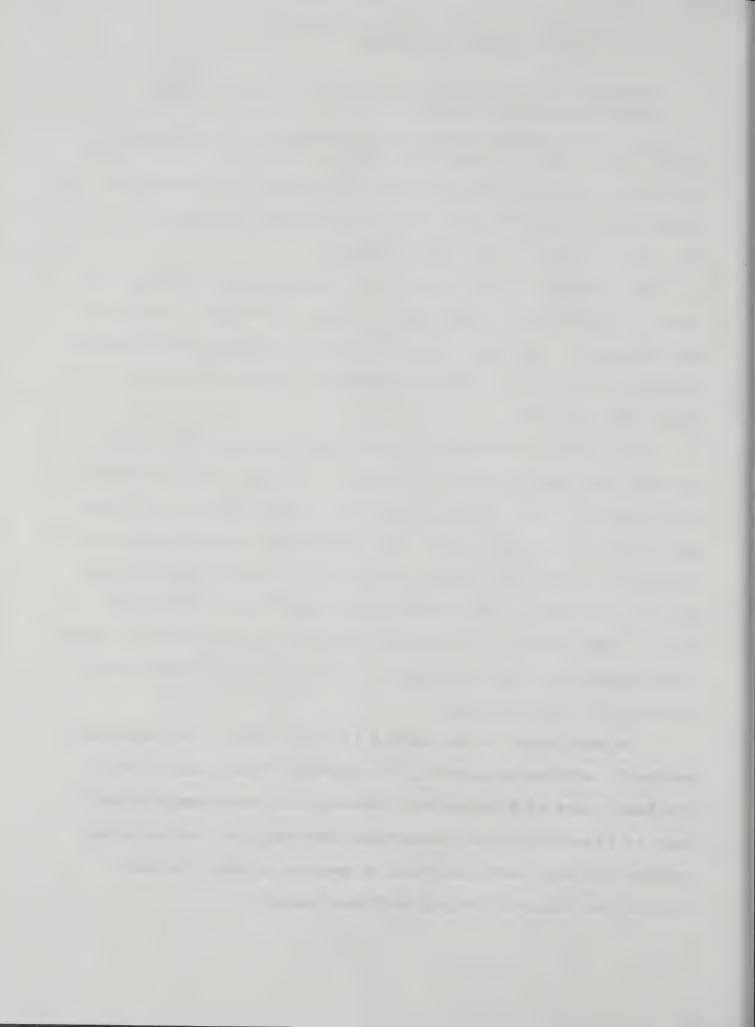
Among the many musty papers in the archives of the Champaign county courthouse in Urbana are almost dozen written or signed by Abraham Lincoln during the time be followed the circuit of Judge David Davis, whom he later, as President, appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

The earliest of the papers, an essize on a marriage contract is dated May 3, 1850, and is signed by "Howett, repoterts and Lincoln." The next document filed is evidently in Lincoln's handwriting and it is signed by himself, the date of filing being June 23, 1851.

Five original documents remain from the year 1852. Some of them bear only Lincoln's signature, and some that of "Furphy and Lincoln." One of these papers is merely signed by Lincoln as witness to a damage suit. On another two damage suits are recorded in one paper—Simers and Davis are signed as attorneys for the plaintiff, and Lincoln as attorney for the defendant.

Also in this period is one partly destroyed record of Judge Davis' instructions to a jury sitting at a trial in which Lincoln was attorney for the defendant.

The next paper in the series is dated October 23, 1855, and evidently written by Lincoln, is signed by "Coler and Lincoln." The past paper of this period, although not concerned with any case of Lincoln's, is of historical interest; it is a decision written by Judge Davis in which he awarded a money judgment against the Illinois Central Railroad Company.



Lincoln, who at the time was establishing a notable reputation for himself as a trial larger in lilinois, was rainly occupied with defending the under-deg as some of the original papers indicate.

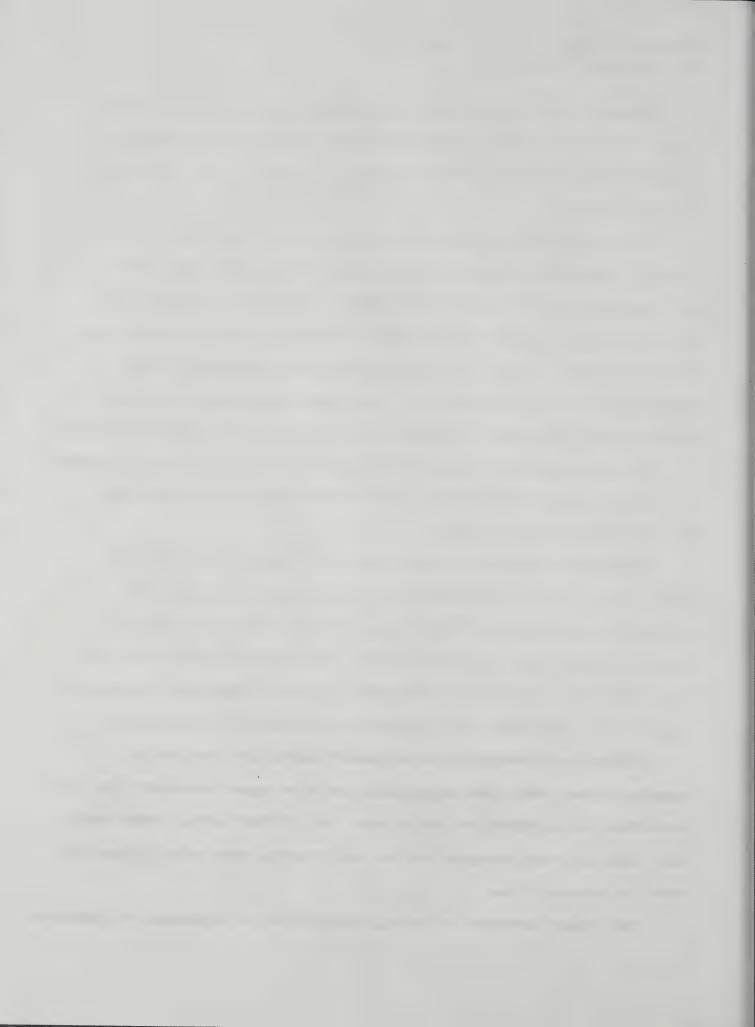
The papers were apparently filed away by the clerk of the circuit court and forgotten until about four years a.p., then an investigator for the Lincoln estate society in beringfield was burrowing through the records of cases in third Lincoln had been attorney. Among them were those nos preserved in the original at the courthouse. . His interest aroused, he came to Urbana where dilligent searching revealed the historical treasures.

He was permitted to have photographs wade of the small number of papers at the University, but was not allowed to take them to Springfield as he wished.

Repeated searching through the old files of the circuit court have failed to disclose any other papers doubling with Lincoln's law trials of this early period. They are now kept securely under lock and key and the site where Lincoln once debated with the fiery little Douglas is now of especial historical significance, marking the beginnings of Lincoln's greatness.

While the documents are slightly faded and the ink is turning brown, they are as legible and the paper is almost as good condition as eighty-five years ago. No printed legal forms were used then and words scratched out or written over were allowed to pass the authorities.

One other document of note, dated 1835 and recorded on parolimes

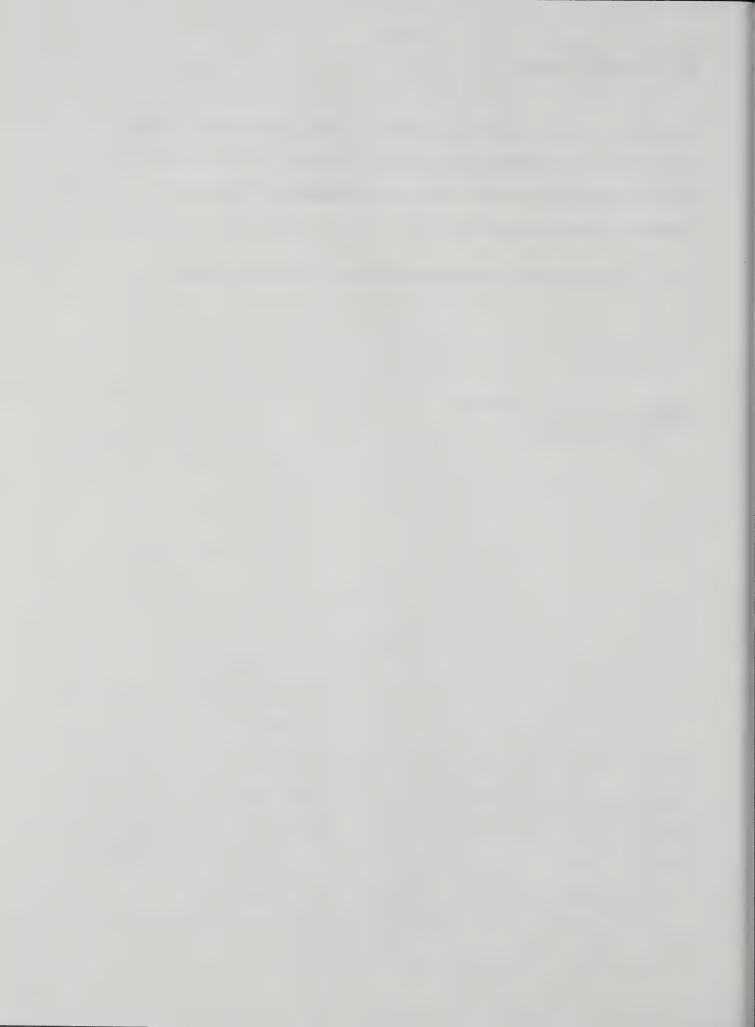


Line in Progra in the waigh Capity

is listed in the microrical ourse of the conthous. This a deed so land prested to one the Vergore train the United States hand and of 1884 with the signature of President Andrew Jackson addited to it.

(Daily Illini, University paper, October, 1938.)

(Copied for Fre. Carlook Jan. 17, 1505, by Bully Burke).



LINCOLM ONCE SPOKE AT EARLY COUNTY CHURCH.

(GOOSE FOND)

"Chambai a News-Masotte, Nov. 1930."

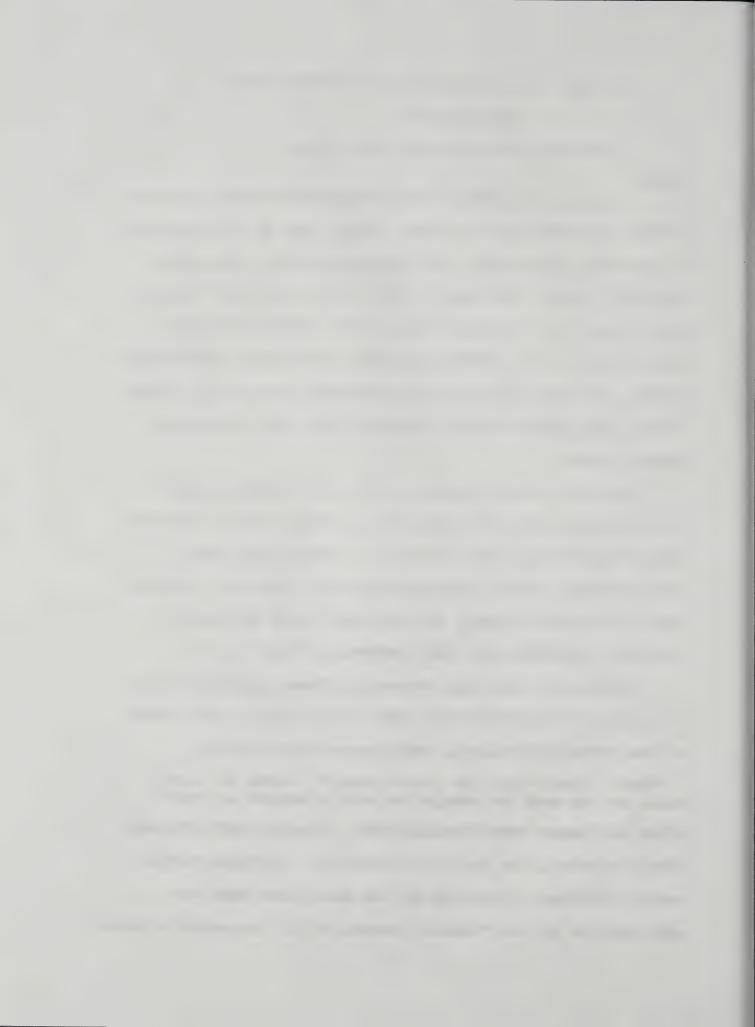
Cuote:

Although the first Sunday School in Urbane had been a union gathering in the Court House, made up and supported by Espticts, Nethodists and Congretionalists, the school was moved, along with most of the people, to West Urbana. Here it met for the first time in the unfinished house belonging to a Mr. Shelling on what later became University Avenue, and was known forever afterwards, not as the Union School, but as the Sunday School of the First Congregational Church.

Lincoln's second speech in the old church was made in September, 1858. Besides this, perhaps one of the most umusual gatherings held on Dec. 11, 1858, when loyal abolitionists met in solumn session in a memorial service for the late John Brown, who had come to so untimely a death by execution nine days before, on Dec. 2.

On Dec. 7, which was Wednesday, there appeared in the newspaper, the announcement that Mr. Van Dyke, then pastor of the Goose Pond church, would preach on the text:

"Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord; shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?"
which was taken from Jeremiah 5:29. Then at 6:30 o'clock
Sunday evening, the Rev. I. P. Stryker, the Presbyterian
pastor in Urbana, preached in the same place what was
ammounced to be the "funeral sermon of Old Ossawatomie Brown."



According to Prof. Larson (Mistory Dept. U. of III.) the papers commented that "the house was crowded to over-flowing at both services by an attentive and respectable audience. The discourses preached were charitable and reasonable as well as pointed and able."

\*\*\*\*\* Tana

Because of the political significance of the theories on which the deep thinking old church fathers had built their organization, there was some friction in the ranks of the brethern themselves at times. Two men and three women formed the first group to sign the covenant of the body. They included: Moses P. Snelling; Mary Rankin; Caroline Snelling; Tamar Campbell; Jane Higgins, and Alsethea Snyder. It was on Nov. 1, 1853 that they completed their organization.

But a few days later A. O. Howell arrived in Urbana destined to become a leader in the church group, and bring about a radical set of principles which were to characterize the organization thruout the war as strictly abolitionists, strictly prohibition, and strictly opposed to secret orders of all kinds, especially the Masonic fraternity.

Howell found a "spiritual kinsman" in Narcus A.

Barnes, lately from Plattsburg, N.Y., and Rankin (John)

joined with them, too. Together they mapped out a set

of five "thorough principles" to be used in the church

as "articles of faith, standing rules, and covenant."

After some discussion, all the members of the church signed

them. The resultant radical tendencies gained for the

Lincoln spoke at Goose Pond church

Congregationalist Church at times the title of "Tigger Church" during the days of the slavery furct.

8. P. Atkinson, who came to Charpaign in 1883, remembers the paster Blanchard, who was still known in town at that date, and after. He was known thruout the country as one of the most radical men on the Masonic question, who had ever been known here.

"He has often come to our house and I have heard him speak on the subject of anti-maconry" declared Mr. Atkinson. "He was one of the most radical men I knew. It wasn't only Masonic work he disliked, it was secret orders of all kind." Not until 1876 was the church's staunch stand on secret orders abrogated under Rev. Pierce, when it was resolved that "this church is not an anti secret society but a church of Christ", which known no test of membership but Christian character.

But in the good old days of her first growing pains, the church was sincere and unrelenting in its stand, which was made to be observed. "We were abolitionists and disfellowshipped all who were not," wrote Howell. "We disfellowshipped all known Masons with their horrid and profane oaths and barbarous penalties."

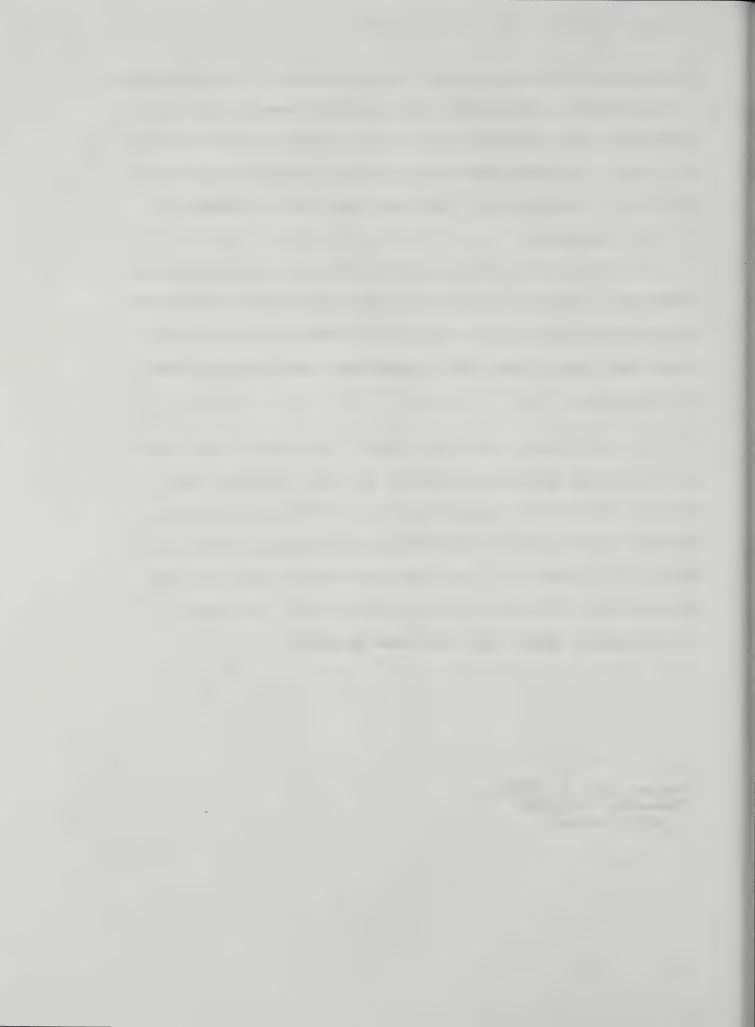
Created by a congregation that took the matter of everyday politics and civil and national government as seriously as it did its religion, the Goose Pond Church grew to be a center about which the life of the small community circulated for many years. The matters of the

church were vital to the old church fathers of the Congregational church; but no more dear to their hearts than the political questions that rocked the nation. Their duties to church and state were interlocking, mutually supporting. Of mutual importance to them also were the developments of the community.

The Goose Pond Church stands alone in the history of Champaign, strangely entwining and interlocking the threads of an ideal church and civic development. It became a community house about which circulated the everyday life of the town.

It came to its end long since, and with it went some of the finest tangible relics of an ideal church, built to be a hub for the community, whose influence should be felt in every good and uplifting undertaking of the people. But as time sweeps on, and the near becomes the far past, the splendid features of the old building's services to the community stand out ever more clearly.

(Copied Feb. 6, 1939 for-Mrs. Carlock Emily Burks)



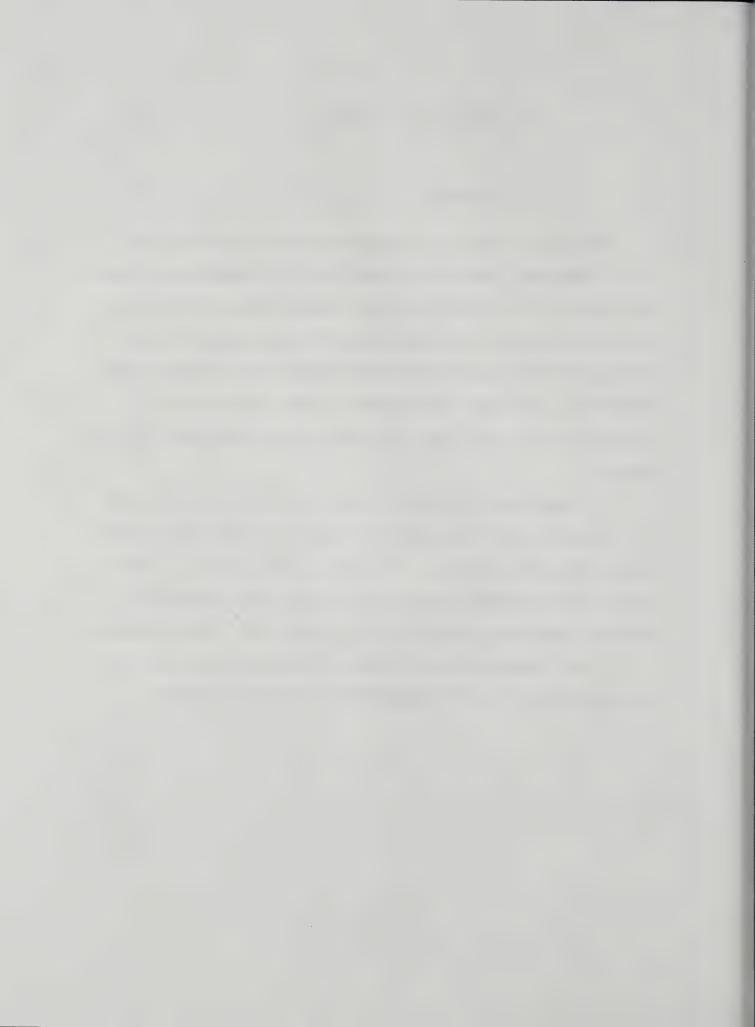
### THE WALKER OPERA HOUSE

### Preface

A. D. Mulliken, who was an usher in the Walker Opena House. His father, J. W. Mulliken, was Manager from 1803 on for several years and has told me, as a young boy, of many incidents which would have been invaluable, but my memory fails me. In fact the failure of the human memory is responsible for the lack of dates in some instances in this paper.

I have tried chiefly in this paper to deal with the old Walker Opera House since it was more pictures we and crude than the new one. However, Taft's visit to Champaign was important because he was the only Precisent besides Hoosevelt (1913) to visit this city since Lincoln.

Mr. Mulliken tells me this is correct as nearly as he can remember so I respectfully submit it to you.



### THE WALKER OPTEA HOUSE

(Northwest corner of Neil and Park Streets)

While drams, melodrams and light opera held the eyes and ears of the "Four Hundred" in upper forties of New York, and while Clark Street was patronized by the amusement-socking Chicagoans; we country folk were not entirely out of the picture. Whatever the estate of man, he must have commoment, so even in the "Empire Building" days of the Highties, we find somewhent houses in Champaign. The foremost of these early establishments was the "Falker Opera House."

"In 1884 a building was erected known as the 'Old Armory' afterwards called the 'Walket Opera House.'

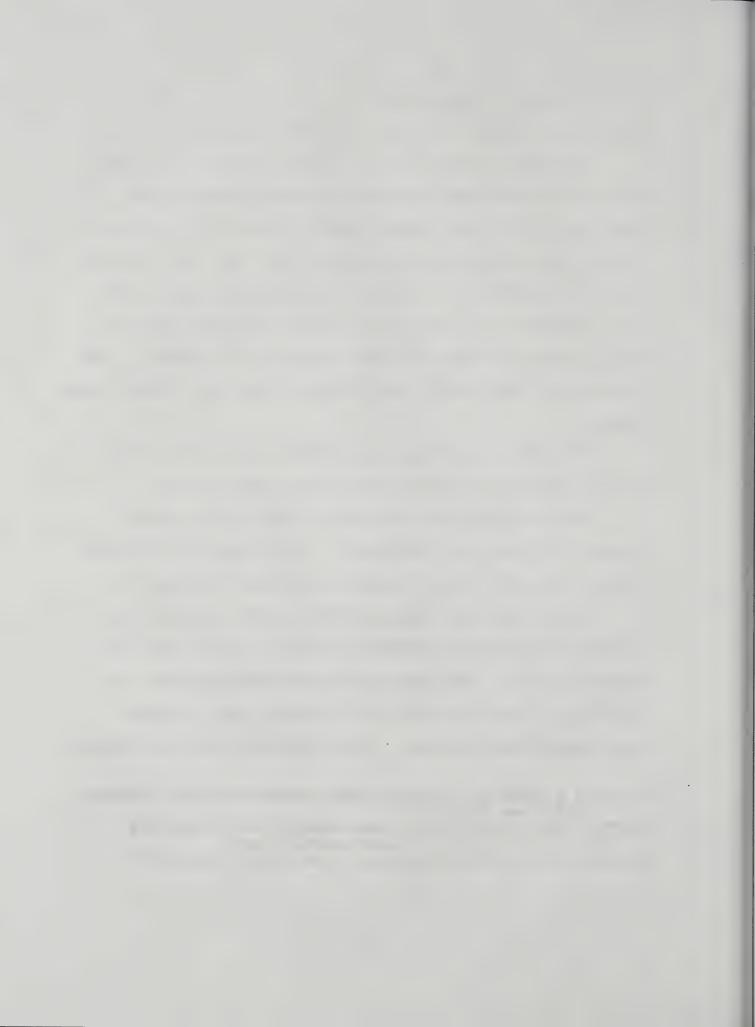
"This building was conveyed in 1889 by the Armory Company to Malker and Mulliken. Walker and Mulliken conveyed it in 1885 to the Malker Opera Mouse Company. "\*a

In the year 1884 Company D \*b of the local militial decided they needed an armory in which to drill and store their supplies. This company was detailed to guard the supplies of the University of Illinois, since violence was feared from strikers. The vigilantes had had a rather

<sup>\*</sup>a From a brief on a case in the Supress Court of Illinois, Gulick vs. Hamilton

b The name of the company was changed to H when they were called to the Chanish American war.

oc Told to me by J. William, a member of Company D.



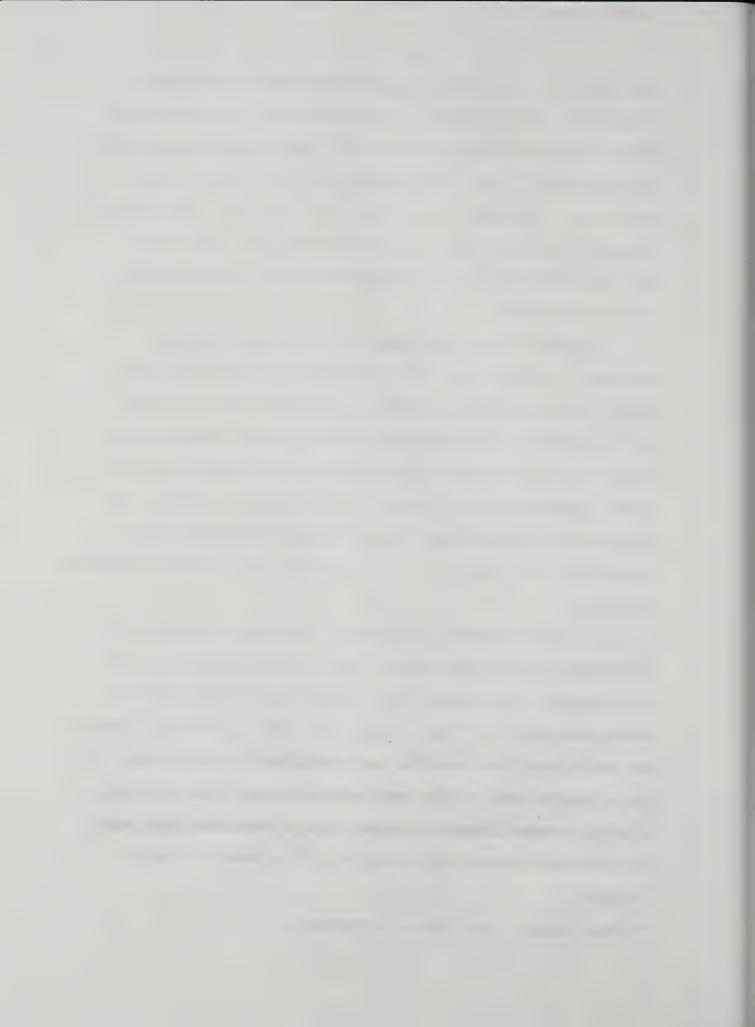
campus (as they are wont to do even today) were descried they were immediately arrested as "suspicious characters". They certainly were "suspicious"—— of a monkey in the woodpile. But back to the thread of the work. The Armory Company built and operated the building but were unable to make a "ge" of it, so the building was foreclosed on by its oreditors.

A group of men comprised of F.T. Walker and his partner, J.W. Wulliken, both of Walker and Publiken Surniture store, Julius Hamilton, a wealthy lumber dealer, and capitalist, W.B. McKinley, United States Congressman, United States Senator and capitalist, and Andrew Harr, a brick manufacturer of Urbana, took over the building and formed the "Walker Opera House Company" in 1889— total capitalization 10,000, each man ormin, too thousand dollars in stock.

actresses of that time to go "on the road" for a part of the season, consequently the Walker Opera House set its standards high —— "Good draja will find a patronage here—— we don't want the poor" as symbolized by its motto.

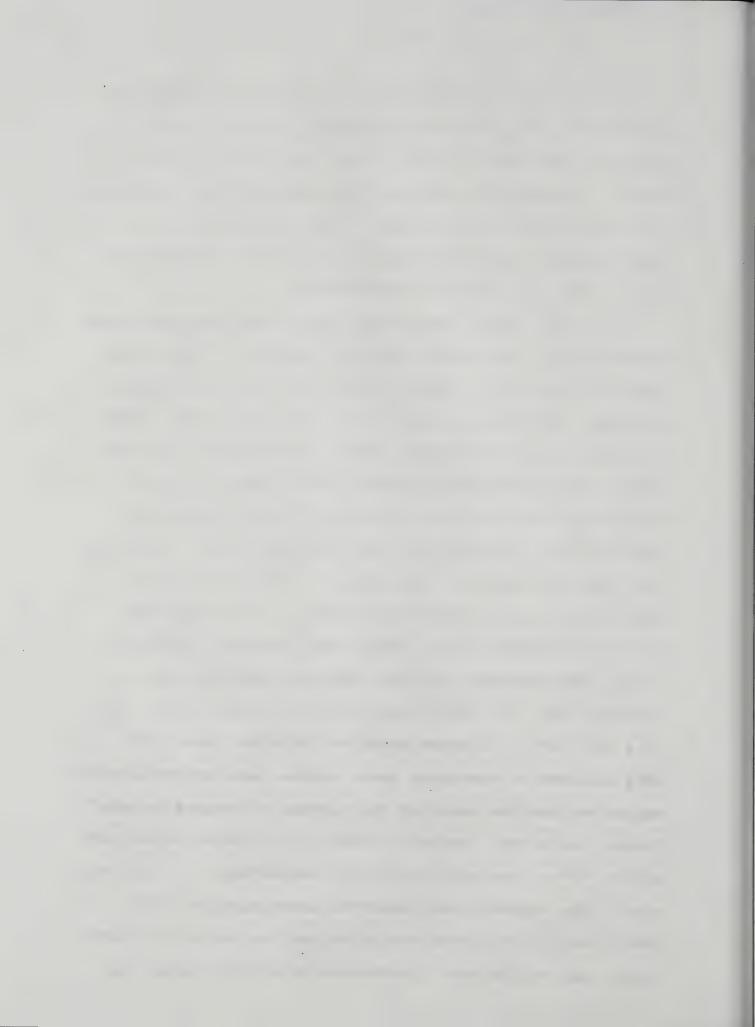
As a result some of the best actors of the "Old School", a world renown literary figure, and a President have each in turn made these walls ring with the sound of their voices.

<sup>\*</sup> from Walker Opera House letterhead.



and medicine men, including lectureres, minstrel shows, musicians and "magic lantern" shows have played in this house. Besides being the best play house of the Twin Cities this Opera House was the score of many dances, parties, band concerts, society meatings; high colors commendate, church fairs and pilitical conventions.

The Overa House itself was a large brick building three stories high. The ground floor the college of two college rooms and the loosy, raised a for steps fro the aiderali, in front, the dressing rooms in the rear and in the middle a livery stable those faint, though at that tier, I william odors would be discerned by those in the parquet above. The second floor was the main scating space with the excention of the star at the back which was waised about four feet from the floor and two rooms over the office rooms from which stairs lead to the bulcony. The parquet was level and when the chairs, which were fastened together in sixes, were removed, the floor could be used for dancing, parties, etc. The third floor was the balcony in the shape of a tall "U". Of those seats on the sides there were only two rows of permanent opera sents -- more confortable and expensive than the seats of the parquet or "peamit heaven." Peanut Heaven was a raised platform in the broad bottom part of the "U" at the very back of the auditorium. In the ledgers of the "Walker Opera House" we never miss the fifty cents haid the policeman who patrolled the alches of penaut heaven and quelled any dicturbances which might uples, as

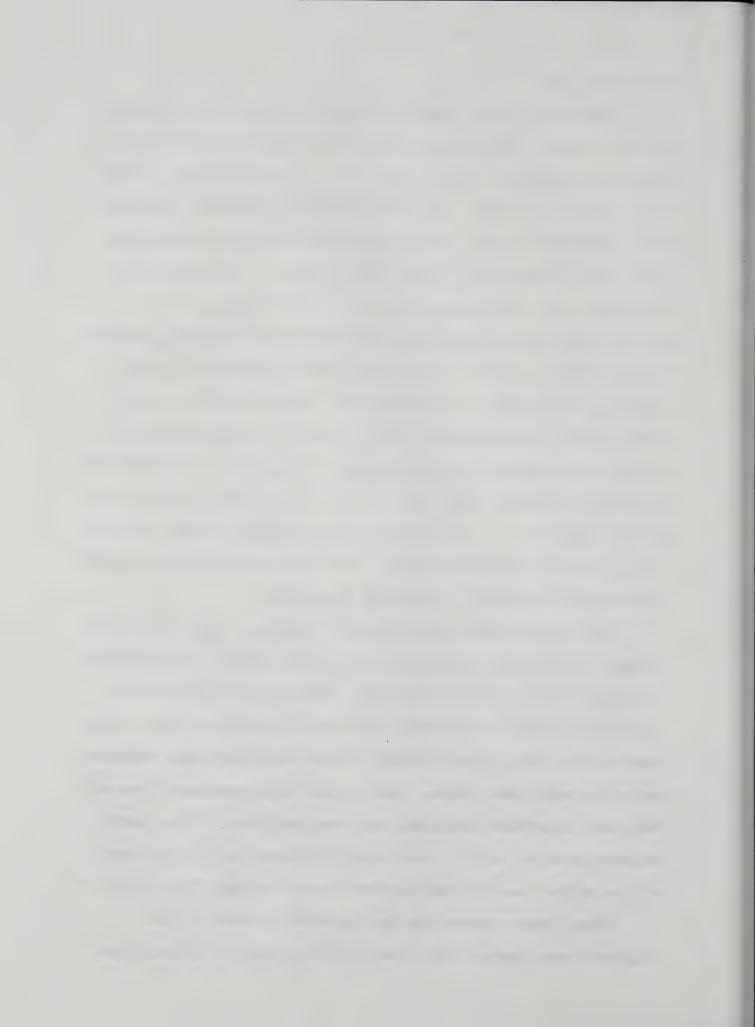


they often did.

Perhaps the most important part of this old play house was the stage. The stage occupied the full wiath of the building (sixty-six feet) with a fly gallery through to the roof (three stories). The view from the audience, however, was a procenium erch, twenty-two feet him by thirty-three fort wide illuminated by god foot lights. In the corr of the stage were the steps leading to the dressing rooms below, and beside these steps were stacks of scenery, drawing rooms, forests, lakes, libraries, street seenes -- in fact anything that could be wished for. These "sets", as they were called, were painted for the most part by transcient exticts who applied to the manager for a job of "touching un" or perhaps making a new set. - Wany a -men - and possible some of the women too -- can remember as a child watching some of these scenery painters work -- for there were always a goodly audience of barefoot, wide-eyed juveniles.

Strung the scenery, catwalks, gas lights of all descriptions, and many ropes by which scenery, curtains and lights were hoisted or moved to produce "effects." Thenever there was a show on the bill, great trunks filled with gorgeous costumes could be seen back there. But in all this equipment one of the most important articles has been omitted. This, each company brought with it and usually placed it in the front of the balcony—— it was the much sought—after "lime light."

Since drama seemed to be the main feature of the "Talker Crera House" are found in the lists of attractions



Cibler, Gorden and Cibney Comedy Company; Robinson Opera

Formany (11) a John Commenta; Verena Jarbeau; Richard'

Welker Thitiside; Clay Clementa; Verena Jarbeau; Richard'

Kencfield; Andrews Opera Company; Eddie Foy; Devolf

Vopper and Della Fox; Charles A. Loder; Ezra Kendall;

James K. Mackett; Mrs. Frank Fisk; Charles G. Handord;

'il Henry's Minstrele; Robert Warwick; Hary Mannering;

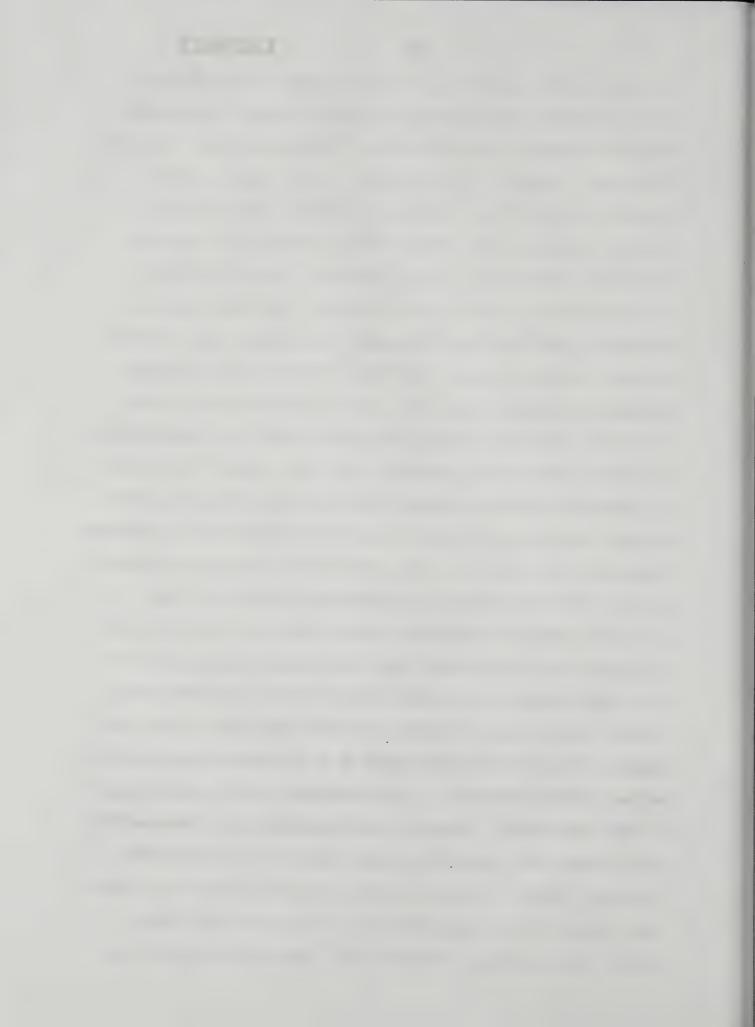
Den and Thomson; Trs. Leelie Carter; Beach and Bovers

Winstrele; and Tom Thanh Company; to mention only a few of

the more familiar ones. In view of this fact it immonly

Sitting to autend a play ---- just to see what it is like.

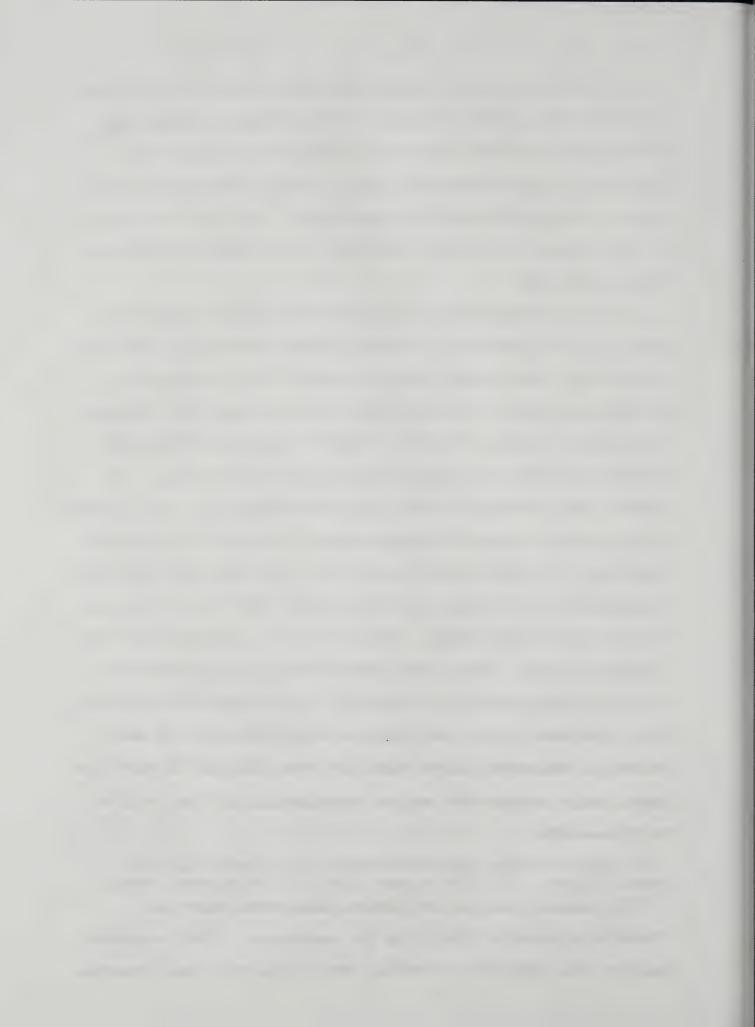
This afternoon on the sides of various and sundrybarras re notice come signs, posted by the bill poster who in his odd moments was stage manager and janitor, announcing that tenight was the night for the performance of "The Substitute" featuring Fara Kendall. On arriving at the Opera House we see some of the townspeople arriving in phaetons, some others in surreys, others in street cars, and some on foct. The lobby is all aflutter with excitement because going to the opera house was an event in those days, moreover Bara Kendall was a local favorite and more than that he was appearing with an "all star cast" in a hilarious comedy which he had written himself. The prospects for the evening are of the very best. After we have purchased our tickets for fifty cents (the special occasion calls for a raise from "popular prices" of ten, twenty and thirty cents") we climb some stairs to the parquet doors. The seats are hitchen chairs and semewhat unfemfortable. Then it is nearly time



for the play to plant, a year; mon poet behind the footil; hts and li hts that with a typer. The lime light sputters and finally bluses forth with its glassing shalt focused on the stage. As the curtains rice a barble starts in peacet heaven and the policeran becomes active. All eyes are glued on the stage— the final chord of the crehestre is struck— the show is on!

It is an unrearious comedy in which Kendell taken the part of an old man who is the son, then there is on older man, his father, and a still older run who is his grandfather. As the play becomes more exciting we notice some of the men round-chout taking a "ches". Smoking during performances was not allowed but "chewing" seemed to be permitted. course, the problem of excess selive requits from this practice but is readily solved by expectorating between the legs onto the floor. At the end of the act the men start for the lobey, amparently for a scoke, as is ensterney even today, out they do not stop at the lobby. They go on to a negroy a closm for a glass of boor. Those who remain during the intermission can hear loud pounding and coraping up the scenery is changed, and if we were to go back stage we would probably see the principal character, along with the rest, helping to move the sets, since actors were not so tempermental as they seen to ne now-a-days.

(I might explain that the popular prices vere: 10¢ for pennut heaven, 20¢ for parquet and 30¢ for balcony seats.)
The curtain goes up and cheers, laughter, tears and "boss" are rendered freely by the audience. After a curtain call at the close of the second act it was the usual proceed-

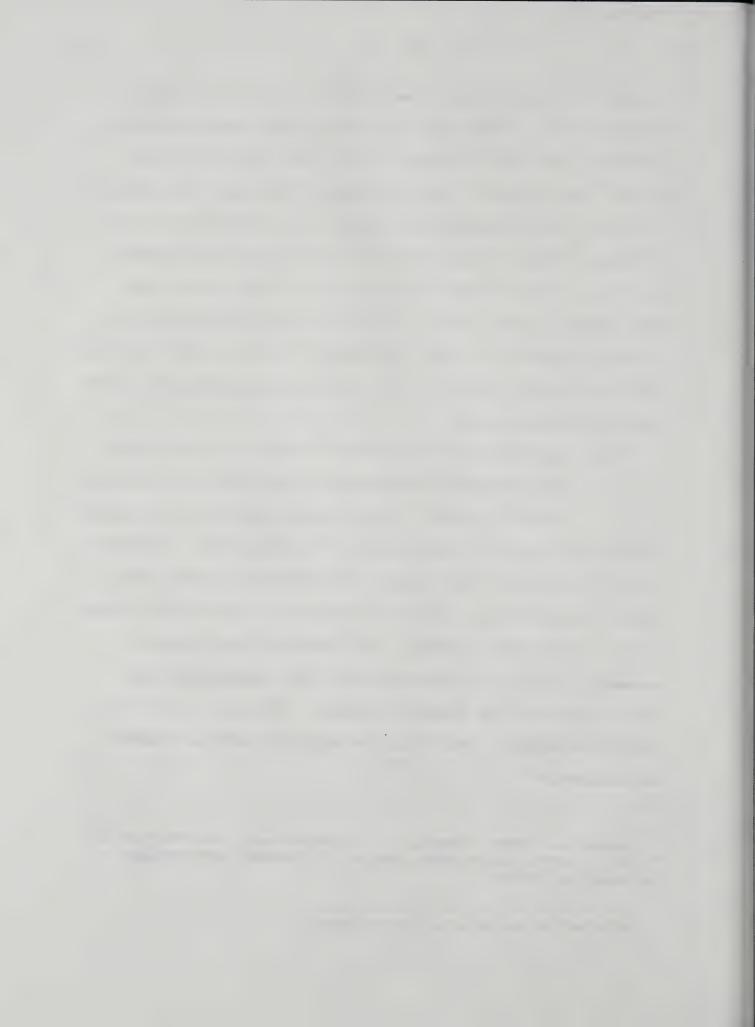


"Curtain talk". This was sometimes in the form of an old favorite poem such as "Casey at the Dat" or "The Face on the Bar Room Floor." At the close of the play the people all leave the auditorium and those whose destinations are in Urbana, find a string of "special" street curs waiting for them on Main Street as there were no car tracks down Neil street at that time. As the patrons are departing the junitor, stagement or and bill poster in one, begins to stack the chairs alon, the walls and sweep out, amplying the scraib brush in certain spots.

The main function of the "Opry House", as most people called it, was dramatic performances which included ministral shows— a great favorite\*, light opera and home talent opera besides the regular "read shows". However, since dancing was not allowed on the campus, the University clubs, now called fraternities, used to come to the "Walker Opera House" to give dances and parties. The functions were rather peaceable usually but occassionally the Sophomores would try to break up the Freshman Frolic. Thile we are on the subject of student activities it might be well to relate an incident.\*

<sup>\*</sup> Outside of Ezra Lendall's "Substitutes" and "A Pair of Zids", Noyt's plays were generally favored, capacially "A Bunch of Keys."

<sup>\*</sup> Related to me by Mr. George Hugg.



During one of the road shows a mob of students demanded free admission and were refused. They began to tear up the pavement and throw the bricks through the windows. G. Buff, at that time baseball coach, was called to help quell the disturbance. He climbed the fire escape and told the boys "to quit acting foolish and go home." The queer thing about it is they did!

Doth Democrats and Republicans held County Conventions in this auditorium and the name of Joseph G. Cannon '(Uncle Joe) is found repeatedly \* as a speaker. In his campaign of 1903 William Howard Taft spoke from the stage and the auditorium was filled even to people sitting and standing on radiators and leaning in windows. Hany a hot debate has taken place here. "Free Silver" and "Tariff" have been harrangued and discussed, railroads and trusts have been condemmed and exalted, and graft has been exposed and possibly propitiated all in the same building.

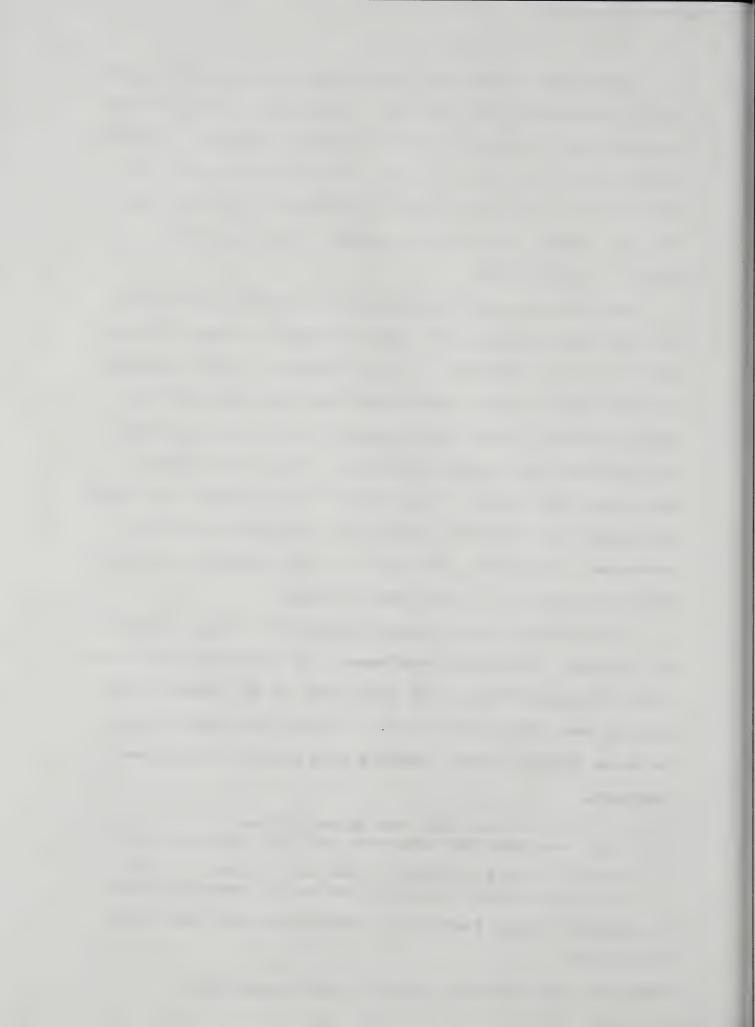
The cultural side, attended mostly by women, is not to be slighted. University professors and lecturers spoke here. James Whitcombe Riley, that great poet of the common people stopped here frequently and one of their own number speaks to these simple, honest, country bred people in their own language.

An' the lamp wick sputters, An' the wind goes woo!"

"You can hear the crickets quit an' the moon is grey
An' the lightnin' bugs an' duw is all squinched away."

He spoke of things familiar to these people and they loved him for it.

"Riley's "Little Orohan Annie" and "Raggety Wan."



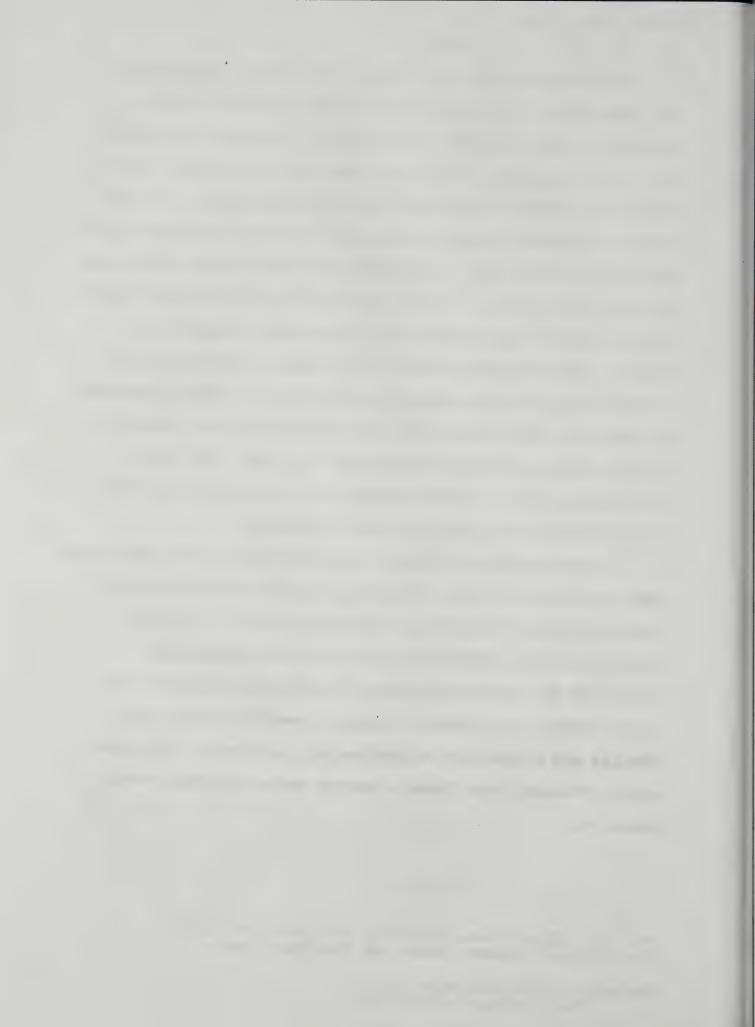
In the year 1805 the "Tolker opera Rouse" was remailt
and endermised to a great extent with a slanting floor,
electric state equipment, of ht boros, and permisent seats.
One of the features of the new house was a new front "drop"
witch was considered by many to be a masterpiece. The bill
from the Samesan Landis Corpany, who made it, had been 1,000.
It was the picture of a mountain seems with lanian topece and
a group of Indians. On the opening night of the new "tolker
Opera Bruse", Clay Gloments in "A Douthern Contlem" was
playing to a connectly house. At the end of the first act
curtain call, the operator, in an attempt to make a "splurge"
by drowning the curtain fact and stopping it just before it
hit the floor, reversed the motors too hard. The brand
new curtain ripped halfway across the top and the show had
to be finished with the old roller curtain.

In each advancing step of civilisation we find new things which push out the old. This has been the case of the old fashioned Opera Bouse. "a Since the advent of talking motion pictures, vaudeville and radio the curtain has "rung" on the legitimate actor, the minstrel show and the light opera. As a result, though we wonder whether its thrills and glamor can be duplicated, we find in the place of the "Walker Opera House a modern store building and a hotel. "b.

## FINIG

<sup>&</sup>quot;a The Walker Opera House was tern down in 1914. "b Millers' Apparel Store and Manilton Motel."

<sup>(</sup>Copied for Mrs. Carlock- by Banks, January 1939).



# OLD CALENDAR DESCRIBES CITY WHEN IT WAS JUST A TOWN; FIRST MARRIAGE LICENSE WAS ISSUED in 1833; QUEER SOCIAL LIFE

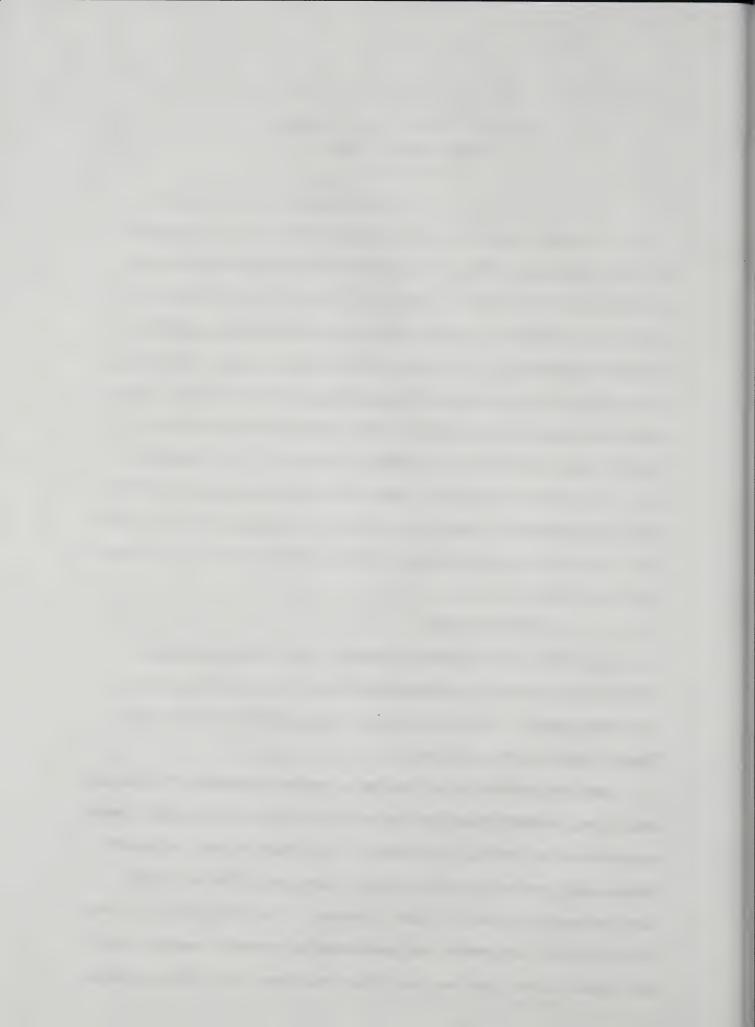
Harold E. Hitchings Champaign - News-Gazette.

of 2t years ago, 1908, called "An Historical Calendar of the Old and New Yorn," which is devoted to recalling the events in Champaign county which marked turning points in the development of a growing pioneer community, beset on all sides by obstacles of the ordinary country town. The calendar, apparently printed with no advertising and in view was loosely bound into a booklet. The breath of the past seems to eminate from the crisp accounts of momentous happenings it records, and one's imagination is quickened to read the many human details between the lines which tell only facts.

## First License

In 1833, the calendar records, the first marriage license was issued in Champaign County to Malinda Buscy and John Bryan. That is all it says, except that Moses Thomas married the couple.

and John, sturdy pioneers in mind and body, probably. More accustomed no doubt, to outdoor life than he was to court houses and procedure, let alone marriage, John no doubt blushed as he asked for the license. And his bride to be, who no doubt for weeks had prepared to provide canned goods and table linen for her new household was not interested in



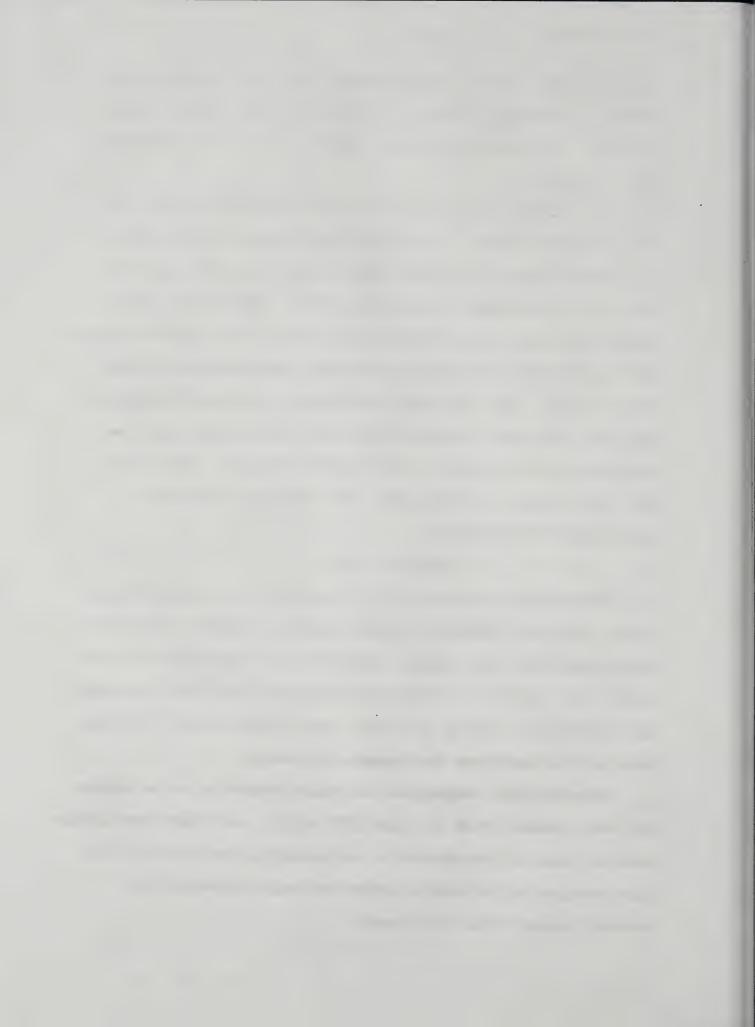
issued in Champaign County. Little did she know or care how much the community grow or whether or not the and John were remembered.

some 28 years later. Heavy old silk dresses that mustled and rattled as their owners walked about were the order of the day in Champsign on March 4, 1861. And in all probability more than one polished silk hat came out of its hiding and was donned pompously by mustached gentlemen in Prince Albert coats. For that was the date of the Grand Inauguration ball in honor of Honest Old Abe, on that day was inaugurated the President of the United States. Of course, Abe was far off in Washington, but Champaign citizens celebrated nevertheless.

## Inaugural Ball

Champaign's inaugural ball was at the old Berner Doane house, near the Illinois Central tracks. Clark's Quadrille band played the slow music, according to a hand bill copied in the old calendar. Lincoln's inaugural ball in Champaign cost Cl.50 per couple, a mighty sum in those days. Six men were on the committee to prepare the event.

Straight and composed—and very rhythmical—so danced the very select group on that 1871 night, and there was little show of jazz as the orchestra and dancers, typical of a day that retained a composure beyond reproach especially at dances, danced until late hours.



Other interesting events in Champaign's history are recalled in the calendar. For instance, in 1833, according to an item found, there occurred on November 13, a meteoric shower, when stars fell. And again, in that same year the last of the Kickapoos, Indian tribesmen. emigrated to their newly established reservation at Leavensworth, Kansas.

for Mrs. M. Carlockby Emily Burks.

COWS OFTEN INTERRUPTED HARLY PURILINGS, LICKING OFF SALT ON OUTER WALLS;

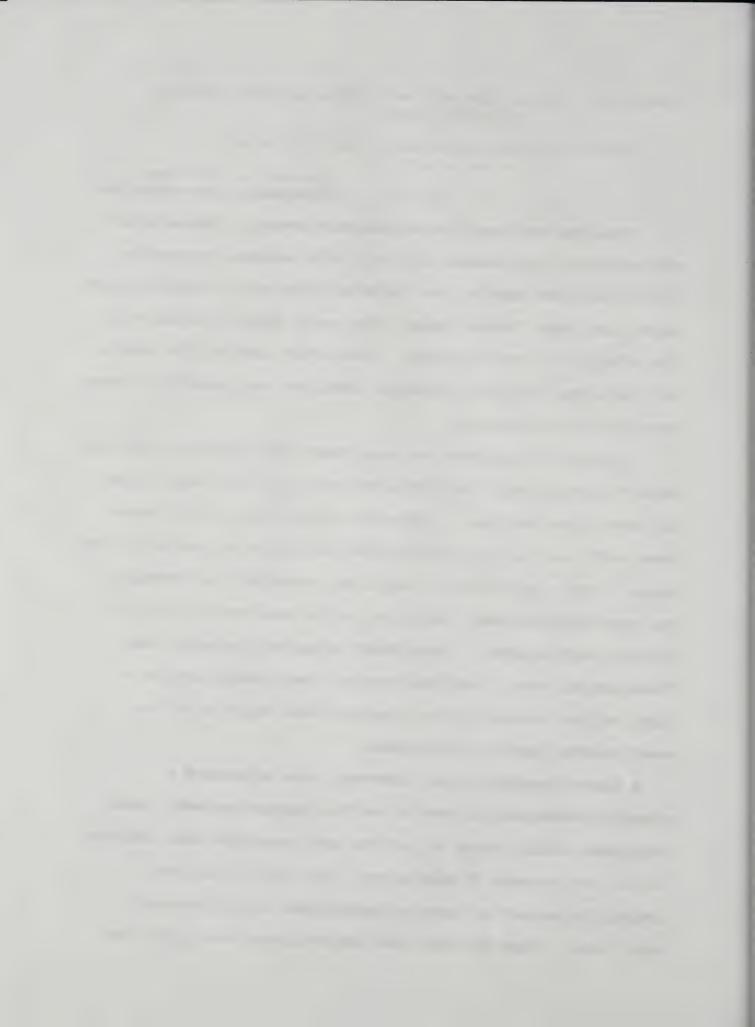
PIONEER PREACHER SOLD RUM TO EKE OUT SALARY.

Harold E. Hutchings Champaign, News-Gazette.

From far and near the wagons were coming. Well-filled with children and baskets of food, with mothers wrapped in coarse homespun shawls, and fathers fitted out in high leather boots and their "Sunday best," the scene fairly pulsed with the vitality of the frontier. One after another the creaking vehicles, drawn by lumberin; oxen, or two powerful horses, draw into the clearing.

A group of settlers --- men, women and children alike --were filtering into the little vicinity, and had been since
an hour after sunrise. Those who lived close in had come
down early --- as soon as they had been able to get up and get
away. For a gathering of any kind, especially a "meetin","
was greeted invariably with joy in the humdrum life of the
prairie settlements. From forty miles away some of the
families had come, they had been on their weary way for a
day, and had stayed in the clearing over night with the
ever present family of children.

A close observer might, however, have witnessed a singular occurance as one by one the wagons arrived, their occupants making haste to get out and associate with friends. For in the process of unhitching, the man of the group invariably seemed to have an unexplained air of secrecy about him. When his wife and the children were gone from



the vicinity, he would glance about slyly to the right and to the left, then appear to go on with his work of unhitching, but always watching out of the corner of his eye the others of the gathering, who were some of theorem any from the "hitch rack."

#### Sought the jug

Rev. John (?) I. Peters, was known the countryside around for his whiskey.

Not that he made it himself, and voluntarily placed himself in the same classification with the Kentucky mountaineer "moonshiners." This was not the case. Not being so closely tied down by his official duties as a travelling minister would be, he could travel at times over the Chio river where good whiskey could be bought for ten cents a pint. This he brought back by the barrel, and sold it out at a "bit" a pint, or a dollar a gallon as he went his trips, preaching through the country.

#### Both Essentials

But his action did not lower "Uncle Billie" in the opinion of his ardent religious followers. For whiskey there must be, and gospel there must be, the settlers philosophically decided, and if the two necessities happened to be furnished by the same agent —— well, what were the odds.

Religious services were few and far between in Champaign county in those early days --- the late 30's and early 40's.

Reverand Peters, living in what was called the Salt Fork

timber, really brought a free solvation, after all, for he never asked pay for his services. Of course, he sold his whistey, but the settlers still stoutly maintained this no harm.

Talking Tiresome

Like an oasis in their desert of life, came these meetin' days of the settlers. Dreary days, filled with only the hard work, they knew continually. When they did choose to take a day off, there was little else to do but go to the neighbor's house; and this too became tiresome "seein; the same people, talking of the same things."

But meetin' — everyone would be there.

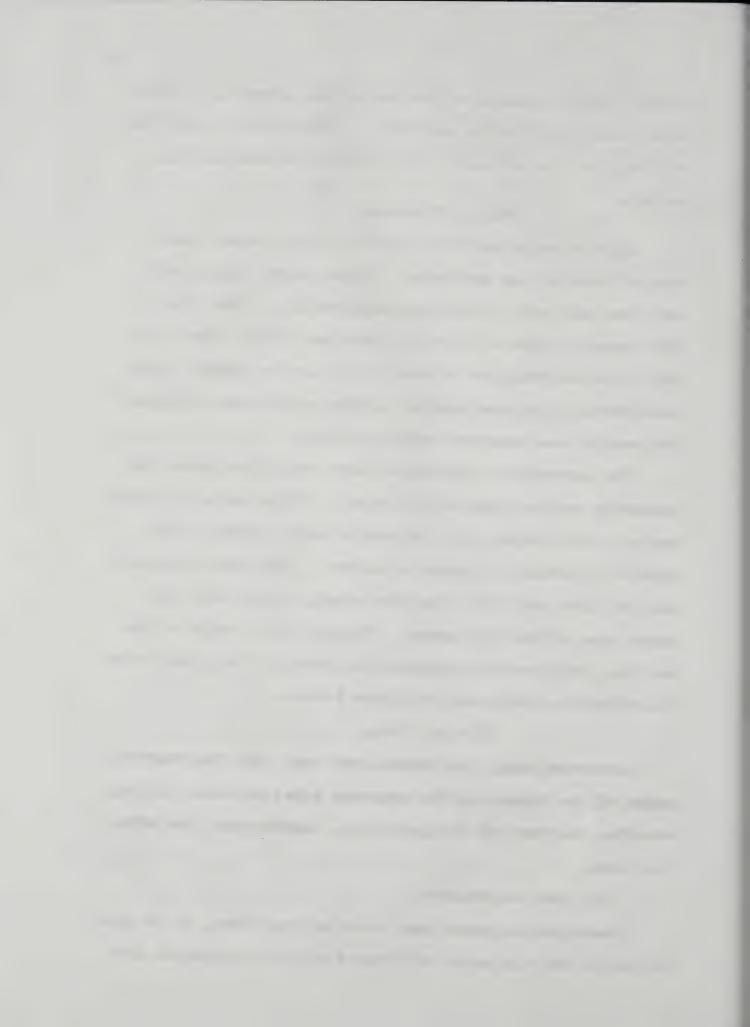
The accumulated spandal of days would flow about the gathering on the wings of the wind. Little matter if there was no church house yet; the people could gather in the yard of a centrally located squatter. And when it rained most of them could get into the house, or the barn, or under some of the big trees. Finally there would be the service, with everyone singing the good old religious songs filled with a wholesome religious fervor.

## They all Sang

Everyone sang; the trees about rang with the measured meter of the hymns and the sonorous tones of Uncle Billie, standing in front of his gathering, beating out time with his hand.

And then he preached.

Sometimes he spent long hours at it; often, it is true, he had to use the stock of phrases of his ministerial pro-



fession over and over in order to fill out the time. Dut a long sermon was beyond question a good sermon, and Uncle Billie wanted to give satisfaction.

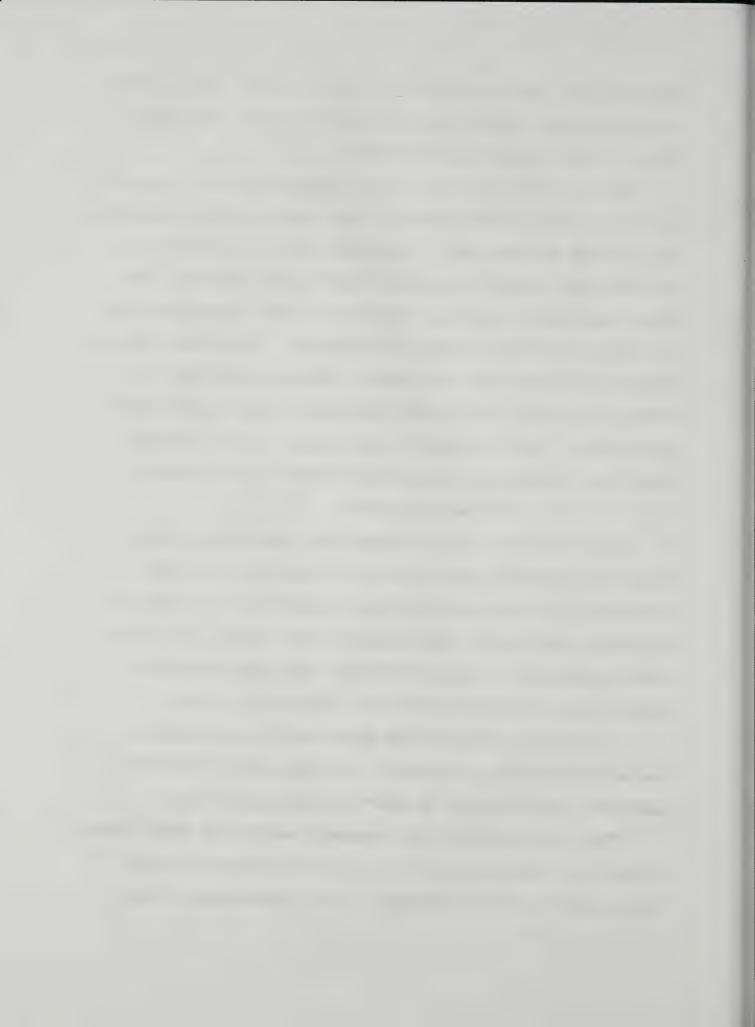
Humble beginnings of a great, engaling vital account in the history of the community were these typical gatherings for worship so long ago. Descended from a people in whom the love for freedom to worship was almost a passion, the first settlers of the west lost little time in rallying at the command of their religious instinct. They were actually killing two birds with one stone, bringing about the solution of one of their social problems as well as the religious ones. For no event in the meagre social calendar could far surpass the occassional meeting in the woods.

#### Not sole Interest

Uncle Billie's extra professional activity as bootlegger was certainly not typical of the first frontier
ministers; although tradition had listed him as a minister.
The very fact that he had settled in the timber, and taken
over for himself a claim, indicated that his ministerial
duties were at least not his sole interests in life.

But the spreading of the gospel can be held high as the sole motivating purpose of the thousands of frontier ministers, and "circuit riders" of those early days.

The first settlers were scarsely settled in their cabins before the itinerant was made a part of the circle about their cabin fires and faithful to the injunctions of his



divine commission, he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and the judgment to come", records Judge J. C. Carmingham, chronicler of the past in this county.

#### Braved Elements

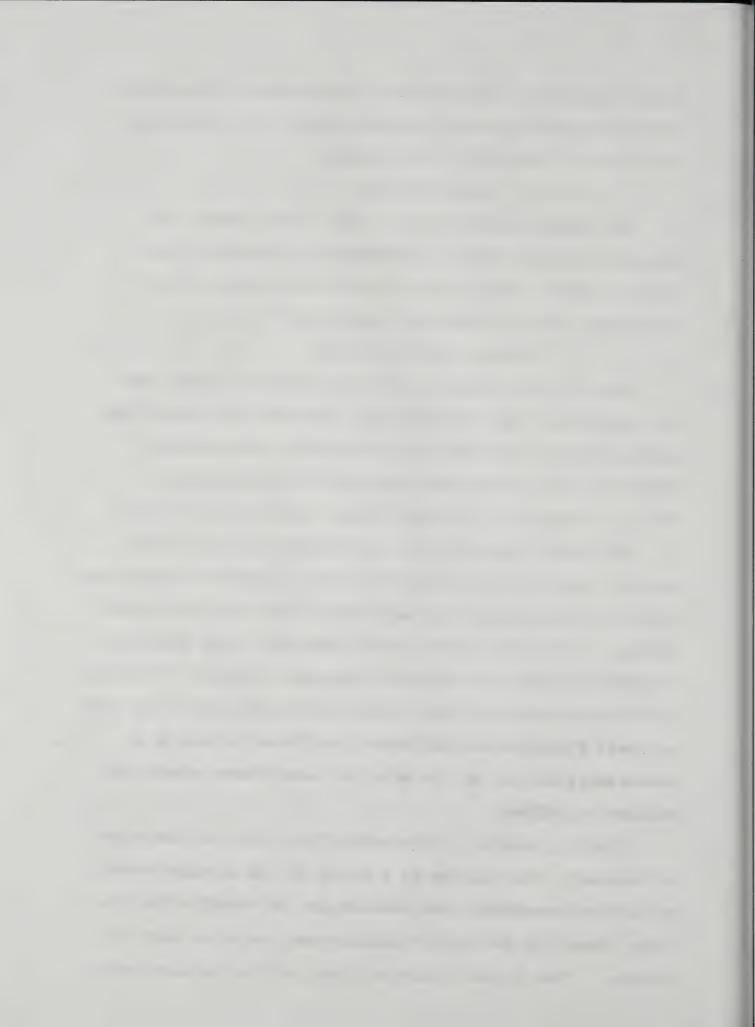
The courageous ministers of the church, braved the elements the year round, and undergoing hardships of the crocked prairie trails formed the one link between the wilderness and the culture of "back East." ......

He Roared --- So did Ox.

Barefoot, and astride an ox that lumbered slowly over the long miles, went the preacher, and "while he roared and bellowed inside the homes of settlers for the spiritual benefit of the accumulated settlers of the community, the ox, tethered to a sapling roared and bellowed outside."

But feeble beginnings of the church movement, afterward to become so closely allied with the growth of ChampaignUrbana and this community, were these first religious gatherings. Not until several years after the first sermon was
preached was any effort made to organize a church. Denominations had not been able to gather sufficiently the loose ends
of their flocks in the different localities to draw up a
membership, and set up the straight laced church creeds for
members to follow.

Finally, however, in September 1838, John G. Robertson of Kentucky, ever zealous as a worker in the Baptist society of his home community, was responsible for establishing the first church in the Brumley schoolhouse, two miles east of Urbana. Then in the following Barch, at ht. Pleasant which



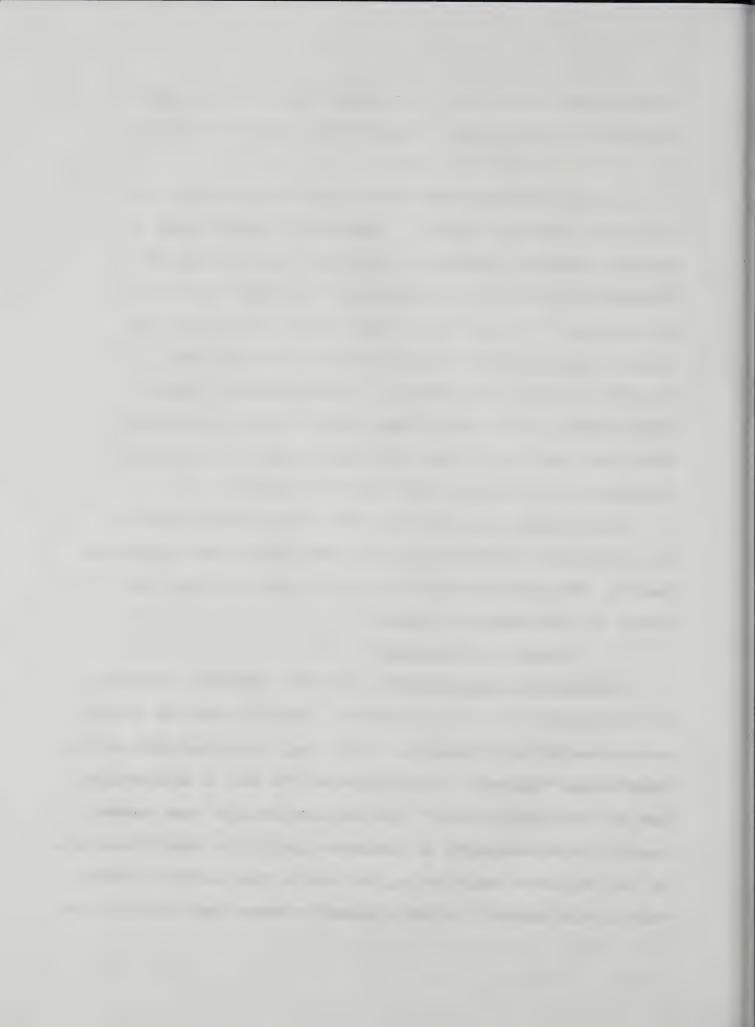
later because for or City, his percent a unch of the game denomination was set u. Inter it the result to Tabor to Cathedox Thinker

Robertson, history records. Importation, regeneration, a strictly observed communion, were well known to him and reverenced as very the principles of marginty and the law of monogramy. It was a great day for the strict old doctrinist when he found enough others of his faith and beliefs to found the churches. Conceientiously, funday after Survey, he met with them, adding to the membership, developing the work, layin; the foundations for a greater development of religious life in later years.

In a similar duty of love, Rev. James Holmes came to the settlement in this county in 1835, living here among the people, the embodiment of all that is good and just, and strict in the Methodist church.

Worked --- Preached.

Although he was primarily a workman and not a minister,
it is thought that he was ordained. Se officiated at wedding
ceremonies in the community. Bith real characteristic of the
traditional "fathers" of the churches the man, a mill-wright,
saw his duty and did it." He had been brought here by the
people of the community to construct a mill for John Brownfield,
at the big Grove near Urbana, but seeing the dearth of ministers in the community which apparently showed much need of the



spirit of the church, he began to preach.

His first sersons, delivered without a proper building, were in a school house, not for from the home of his employer, Brownfield. The school is described:

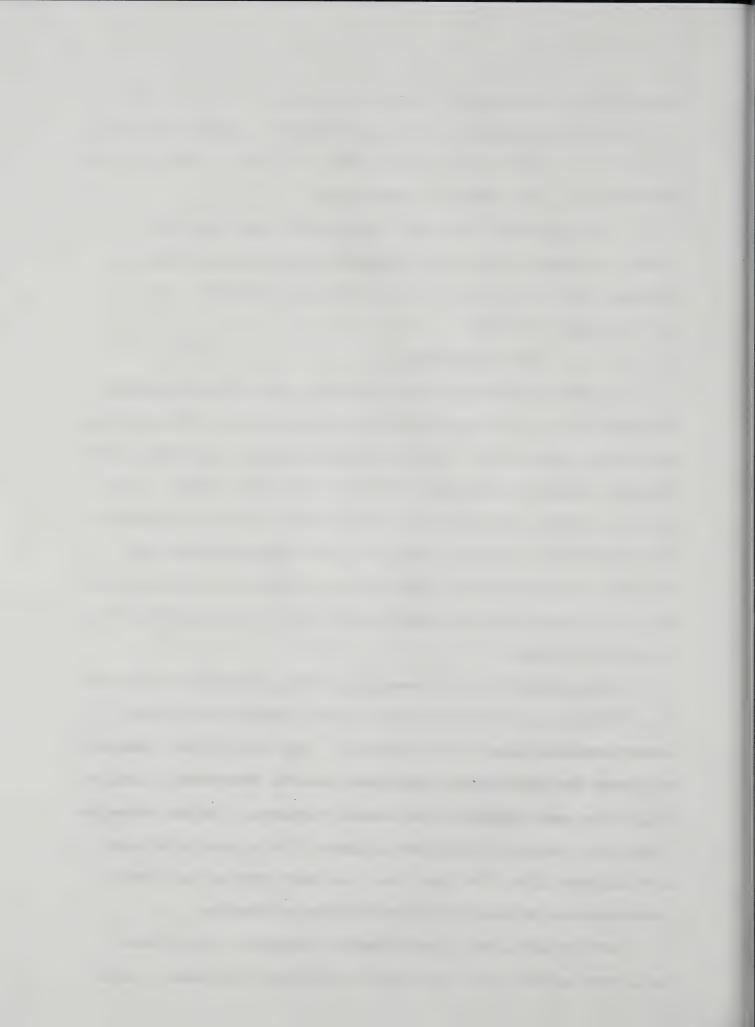
"It was built of split logs, with puncheons for floor, basswood park loft, greased paper wind was, held log benches with the flat side up, and cost, furniture and all, not to exceed \$25.00."

#### Urade Beginning

In such an inauspicious beginning, the first Nethodist minister here "but his sickle into this harvest," his purpose the soving of souls. In the following year, the first class for the study of Methodist principles was organized. This was the direct antecedent of what became the Urbana Mission, and the Urbana circuit, where circuit riders started out on their lang jaunts to their flocks, often traveling as much as forty miles on horseback, in any kind of weather, "all for the glory of God."

the Methodist and Buptist faiths jot a head start on the other denominations in the county. But up to 1940, neither of these had developed enough momentum to construct a building to be used entirely for church purposes. In the three or four years marking the first attemps of the people to have a religious life, they had been too busy getting up their associations to have time for building a church.

But in 1830, religious fervor received a great boost ut a casp meeting at Esptensvill's will on the creek a wile



below Urbana. Nov. S. . . D. Chase, destined to become well known inthis community's church circles, and at that time elder of the Bloomington district, had charge.

#### All Not Rosy

An epoch making event, it is termed by old citizens who wrote their impressions. From that time on religious life in Urbana began to grow apace, and a church here was immediately recognized in the Methodist conference, which greatly cheered the ardent local members, who labored consistently for the church and its advancement.

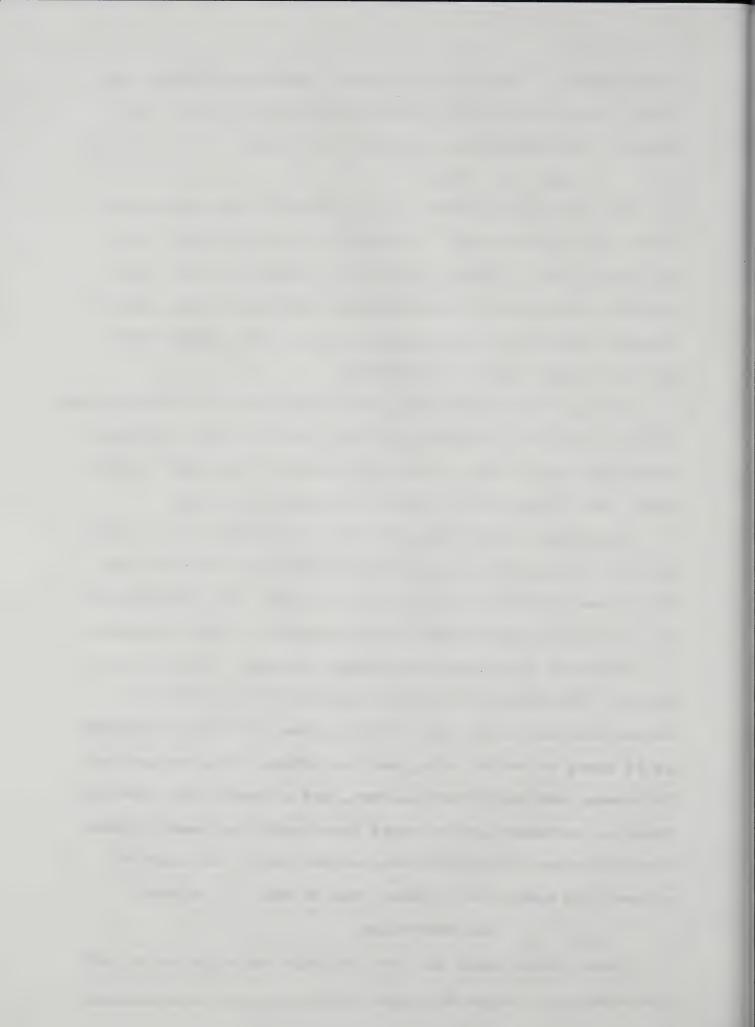
Reverand Arthur Bradshaw, the first pastor of the Methodist charge, found the beginnings of the county's first person ge crude and made of logs, set in the midst of the small settlement, when he arrived to assume his pastoral duties.

for he traveled 150 miles over the uncertain roads from the Ohio river territory to reach the new home. In his memories of the trip he wrote about the new church, and his hardships.

"My next appointment was Urbana Mission. This caused a move of 150 miles, and we were compelled to move in an ox wagon, camp out about half of the nights and take the weather as it came; so we had rain, mud, and storm. Then we arrived in Urbana, our goods were all wet, and a fierce wind blowing from the northwest and no empty house could be found in town. The little society and friends had but put up the body of a hewed log cabin with rafters, but no roof, or chimney."

# Did Everything.

Every three weeks the Rev. Bradshaw was expected to make the rounds of a dozen different meeting places, to administer

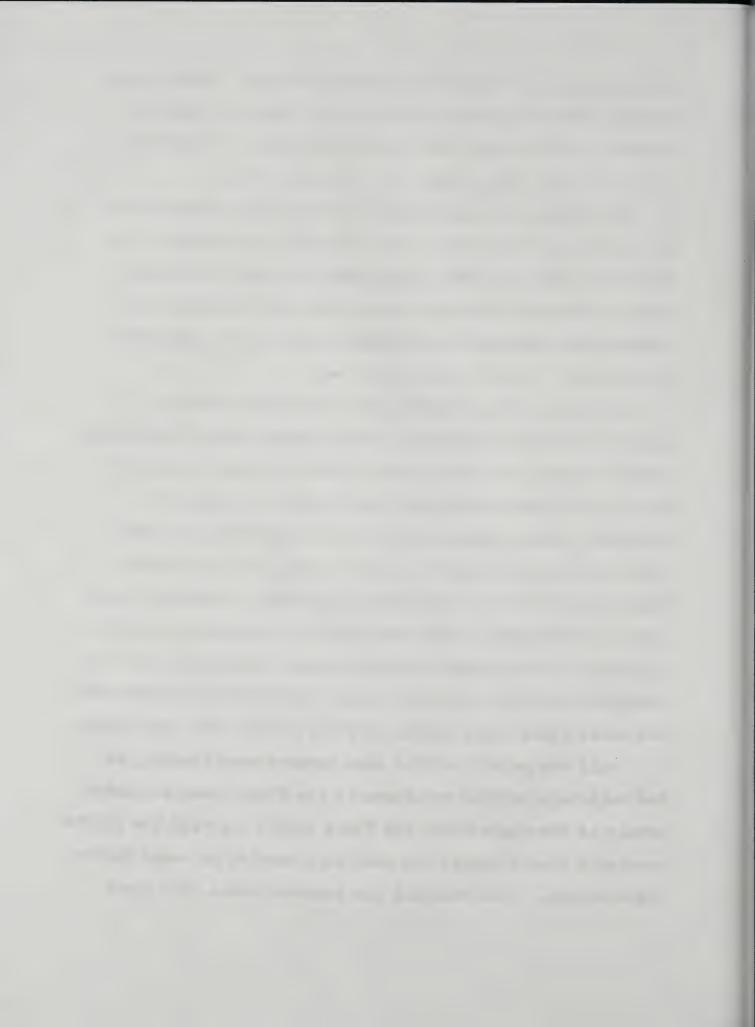


"circuit rider" he took his work as he found it, the old stories of him relate, and did not complain. Sometimes it was morely a sermon that was expected of him.

he visited, at times there was a function and there in the stillness, with only the trees shows to watch the little group of nourners he said the last wat sad contence that commends the bodies of good pioneers back to the noil they have loved. Then he went on his way.

church was built in Urama. On the south side of The Street, between Market and Race it was placed, on grown given by the county commissioners for the purpose. In fact, the churchmen, being scalous only for the formating of their work, were not too proud to accept lifts, and the entire construction work was done after donations of saterial, land and time were made. With such willing cooperation, however, the zeal of the inborers seemed to wane, before the work was completed, and for an entire summer the church set unfinished. Not until three years later, in 1843, did it have any windows.

Only the pulpit and the Amen corners were floored, in the building, and the remainder of the floor space consisted merely of the place where the floor should be, with the joists, regularly placed across the building, serving as death during the neetings. But with all the inconveniences, the great



nationishing re ultrity they convoided not be stiffed, and with actonishing re ultrity they convoided, with ever hours creating the ourser of 1840 in the crude building and well up into the autom months.

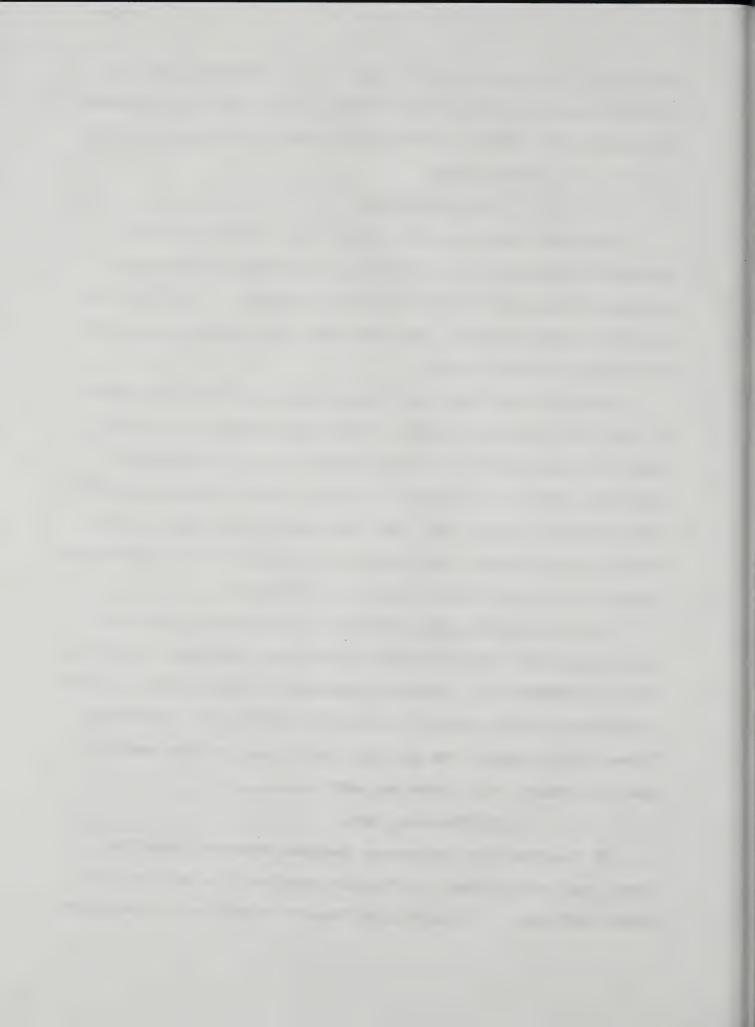
#### Minor Quibbling

Proving, praying people they were, confident of the powerful influence of the church and Garistian principles on their lives and the life of the community, with the fear of fled in their hearts, they centered their social lives about the church they had built.

But from the first they argued back and forth the tenets of the faith they had known. Hany minor quibbles in these early days are reputed to have originated in the opposite doctrinal beliefs of members in their little church com unity. But staunchly against the "bad influence" they stood united, for as yet the church was hardly old enough to have accumulated those taken in and later found to be "unfit."

#### Cattle came, too.

It remained for two women, sealous workers since the church was established, to finally complete the work on the church building. Dissatisfied that it should be so unsightly,

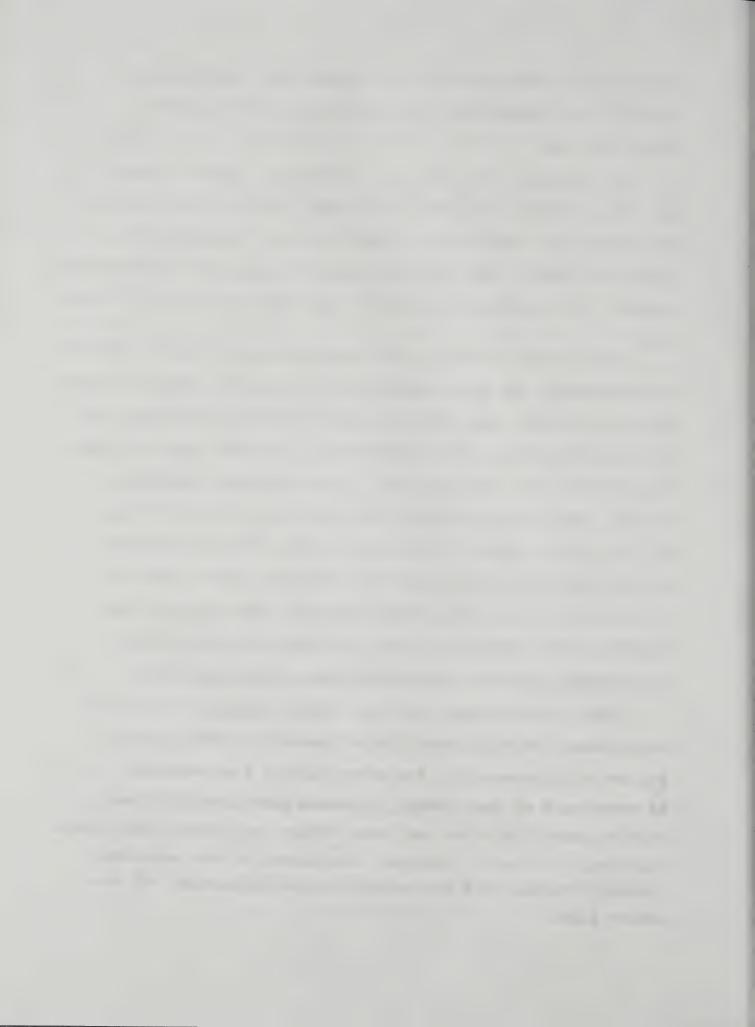


made only of unfinished logs and timber cut roughly in any mills of the countryside, they decided to whitewash it inside and out.

So, equipped with brushes and buckets, Herriet Harvey and Sugan Cantner set about their tack, only to bring about a situation quite unexpected by them in their earnest zeal to assist the work. Salt had been used, it seems, in the whitewash mixture, in an attempt to make it hard and permanent as a cover-ing.

of the church, and were always hungry for salt. Great was their joy, as a result, upon finding such an abundant supply of salt all over the outside of the building. The core served to know a good thing when they saw it. They continued, unbidden, to come back consistently to lick the tasty white building, as long as the savour of the salt lasted. The disturbance set up inside the church by their frequent visits, made it necessary to detail the younger would-be Christians to the outside of the building to ward off the offending, though well meaning visitors until after the service was ended.

Form in conditions that were crude, ranging even on the rediculous, the religious life of Champaign county grew in its own right apace with the other life of the community. As in every part of the country, citizens here have felt the duty to corve their God and their fellow men through the church. The result has been a constant development of the movements generally termed "for the upbuilding and betterment" of community life.



# A TAIN TEREXH AND I. I. A MARK WE WILL BE RUS. IN A DANCE HALL AT ROSER.

Charold E. Hutchings,

the good bethodist prescher, the first Champaign County ever had, was not above bearing old Man Untar in his don, if necessary.

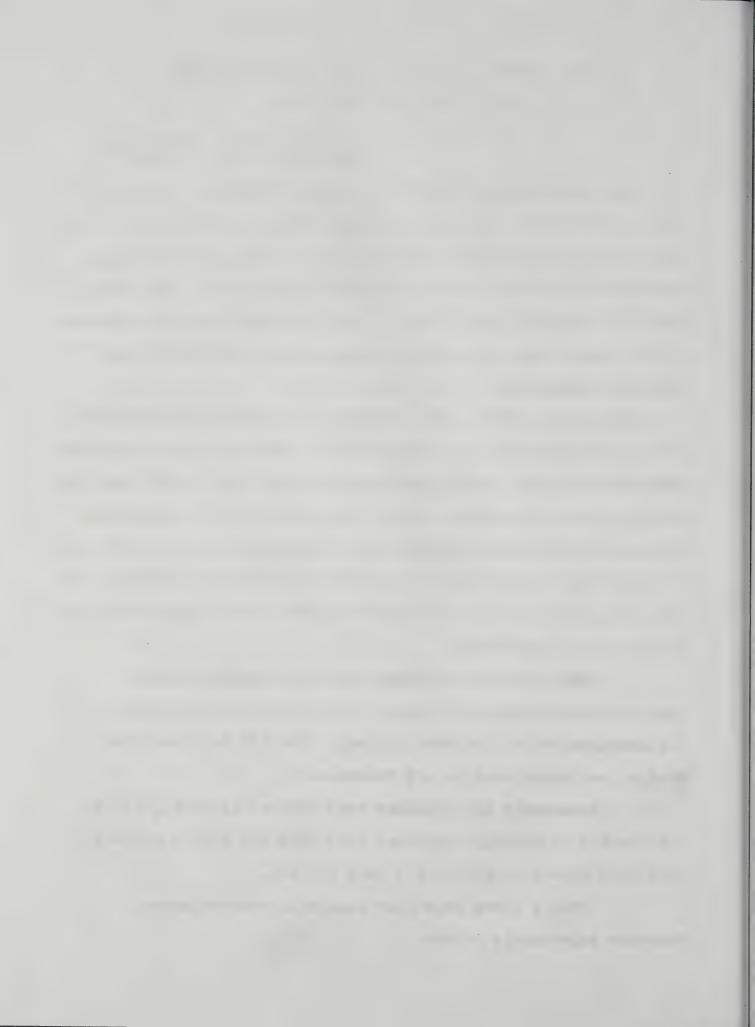
And that is literally what he was called to on to fo, way back there in the early days, when he hald the first religious service of the little town of Hamer in a dance hall, the devil's tra-ditional stronghold.

gather a few brothern and cisters for a service. But he had been unsuccessful until finally he discovered for a service hall, used two nights a week for dances. Boldly he went up to the proprietor, who was also the only physician in the willings, and explained that he would like to use the hall on bunday normings for aburth. The physician and his wife were surprised, but finally agreed to give the use of the building.

"You don't dance in here on the Sabbath, do you?"
querried the honest, old pastor, "and we can't use the place
for services during the week any way. You let me preach on
Sunday, and there wont be any friction."

Apparently the preacher knew whereof he spoke, for in his memoirs he proudly explained that both the doctor and his wife were converted before the year was out.

"Sut I never knew what became of those-damors," Bradshaw reluctantly added.



### . MARK STYR OF FIRST PERSONNER SETTLETER OF THE TO IN HOUSE

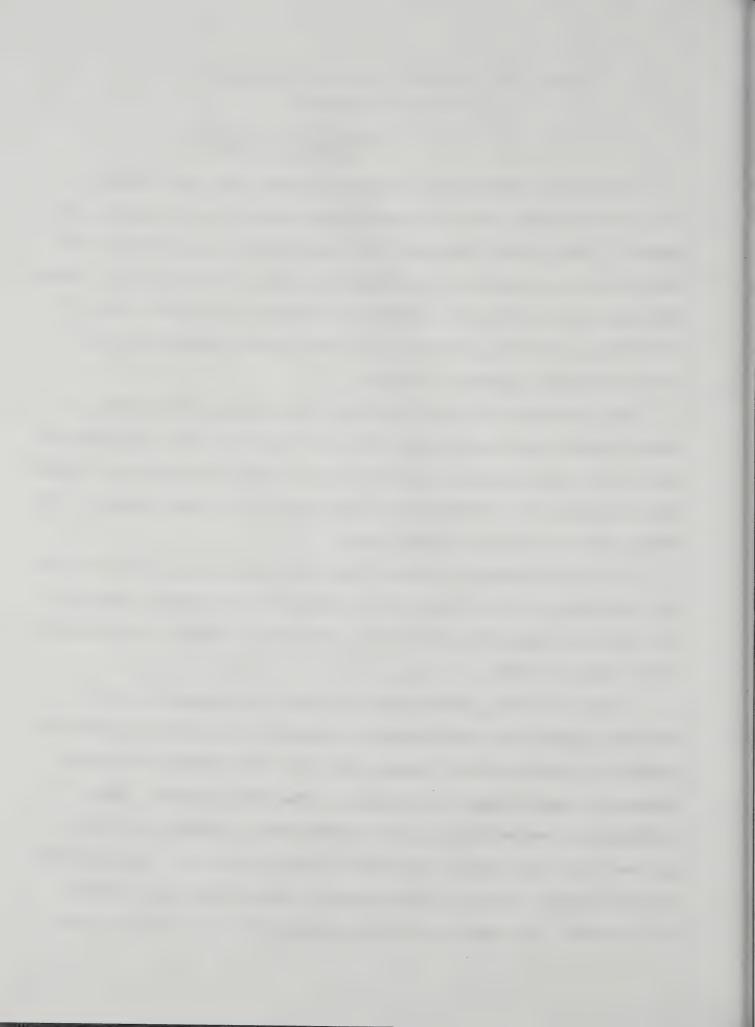
Urbana Daily Courist October 37, 1983

the newary of the first permanent white settler in the county. On March 7, 1884, Tenry Codorus, while wending his my westward with his family in a covered wagen drawn by a yoke of sturdy ozen, across the unmarked prairies of Illinois in search of a suitable place to establish a new home, stopped at a spot one mile south or what is now known as Sadorus, Illinois.

In the present day life with all its modern civilization, v conveniences, and luminies we fail to realize the dobt of gratitude we over to those pioneers who left have and friends behind and endured the hardships and sacrifices of frontier life and made receible the things that we have and enjoy today.

of a memorial to this first white settler of the country naturally the Eglorus Carden Club sponsorin; the idea it began to materialize in the fall of 1930.

vicinity by the lest continental glacier from Northern Wisconsin or Michigan or some part of Canada, and which is estimated to weight between 15 and 20 tons, was chosen as the ideal marker. This boulder was located on original Saderus land in which was known as the old Sugar Camp, and behind which it is said, the Galorus once hid while a band of Pottawatomics passed thru this section on the path. It was to be moved about a mile to a public place



as mer the old Sodamiz low cobin of 1824 and the homosteed that they later built in 1937 on it was possible; to secure a spot ween which to place it. This tack seemed hopeless at first because of the expense it would involve but with the ecoperation and unctinted donations of labor and time by those interested in the project and the assistance of two nowerful steam engines the grone was moved in the fell of 1980 from where it had rected for, perhaps, thousands of years to where the hard road turns west, just south of Saderus. It is at this spot where after two years of unavoidable dulay, dedicatory services will be held. It is hoped that many from all over the county will attend, especially school children.

The following dedicatory program has been prepared to be given at 2:30 Sunday afternoon, October 30, 1932:

> Remarks by probling officer, D. J. Bolter an. Contert, Lind.

Song, "America, (by emdience, emecially school

children), led by O. C. Traylor and chorus.

Invocation, Rep. Forle. Selection, by chorus.

Reminiscense, by Old Settlers present. Song, "Illinois," led by O. C. Traylor and chorus. Dedicatory address, State Fee. Lager F. Little,

Urbana, Illimois.

Unveiling, by great-great granddaughter of Henry

Sadorus. Edna Hay Sadorus.

Response by a Sadorus descendent.

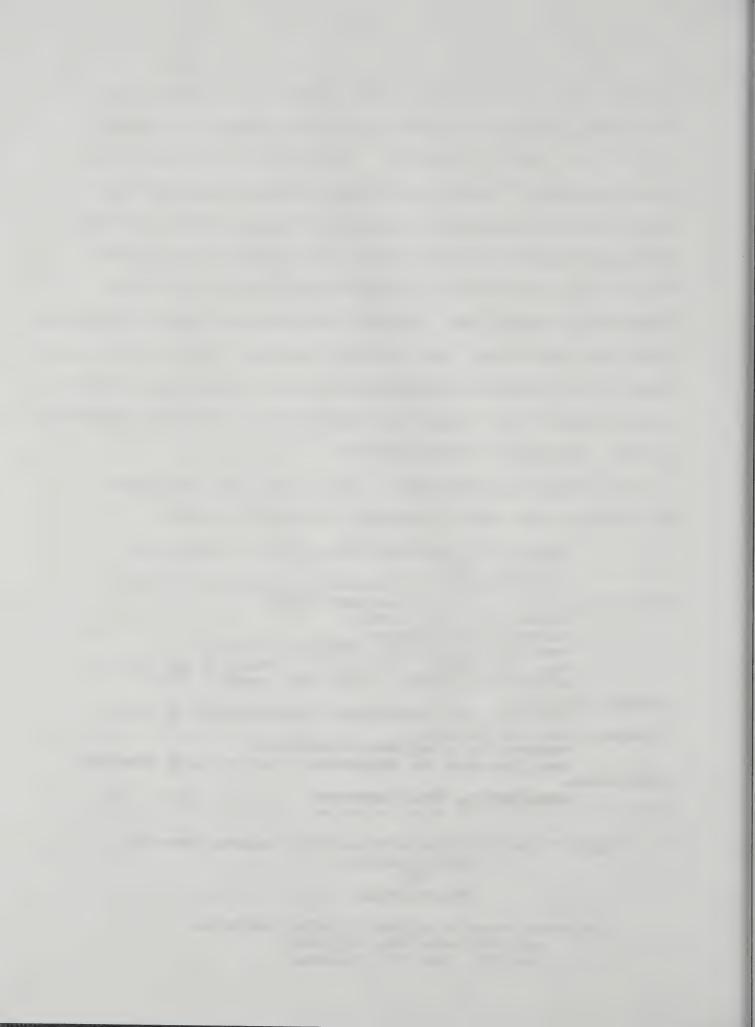
Song "America the Beautiful," led by O. C. Traylor

and chorus.

Benediction, Rev. Schweppe.

Early Mintory of the Mettlement of Madorus Grove by HENRY SADORUS 02 Pennsylvania

in whose honor a marker is being dedicated at 2:30 P.M. Oct. 30, 1932, One Hile South of Sadords.



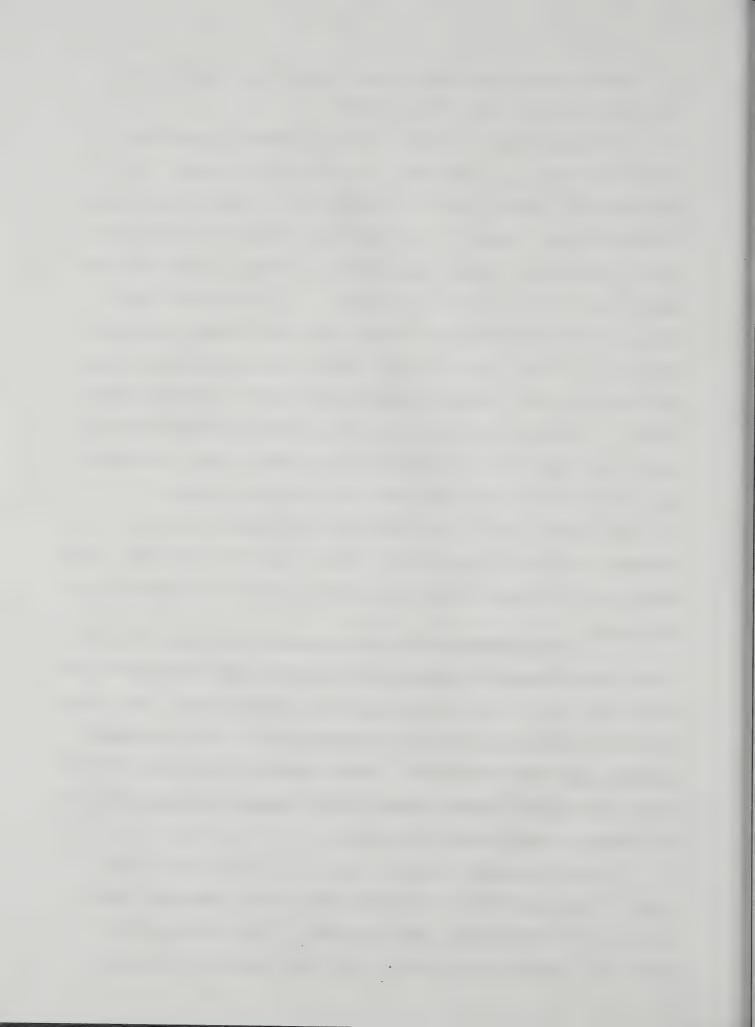
Thurs A form was reared near Titusville, Pennsylvania and recalled tary Titus of Titusville.

In Demonstration he owned a tract of timber land which '
be cut into legs and them exact the logs into lumber. He
fusicioned the lumber into a hige reft and on this raft he built
a onlin for his family. When the Obio river rose enough to
float the reft he floated down stream to find a nerket for his
lumber and a new home for his family. All went well until
they care to Plennerheaset Island where high vetera covered a
part of the latend and the reft struck a subscriped true study.
solitting the raft in-two, spilling the family into the maddy
river. Friends helped to reaches the family and parts of the
raft which has once more bound together with ropes and chains
and piloted to the new boom form of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The impler in the raft was sold for \$1700.00 and Nr. Sadorus received his pay in the State Sank paper ourrency. This menoy was to be used to buy an outfit to take him overland to a new home.

There was a demand for workmen in Cincinnati and he followed his trade there for a time be one starting further west. The State Bank went broke even after he received the pay for his lumber and his money was worthless. He continued at his trade for two years and taught singing school in and around Gincinnati to get the money to begin anew his travels.

lies only purchase with the State Bank money was a total loss. His son William was about five or six years old whom they came to Cincinnati, 1817 or 1819. From Cincinnati he coved by a birol team to Flat Book, near Madeville, Institut,

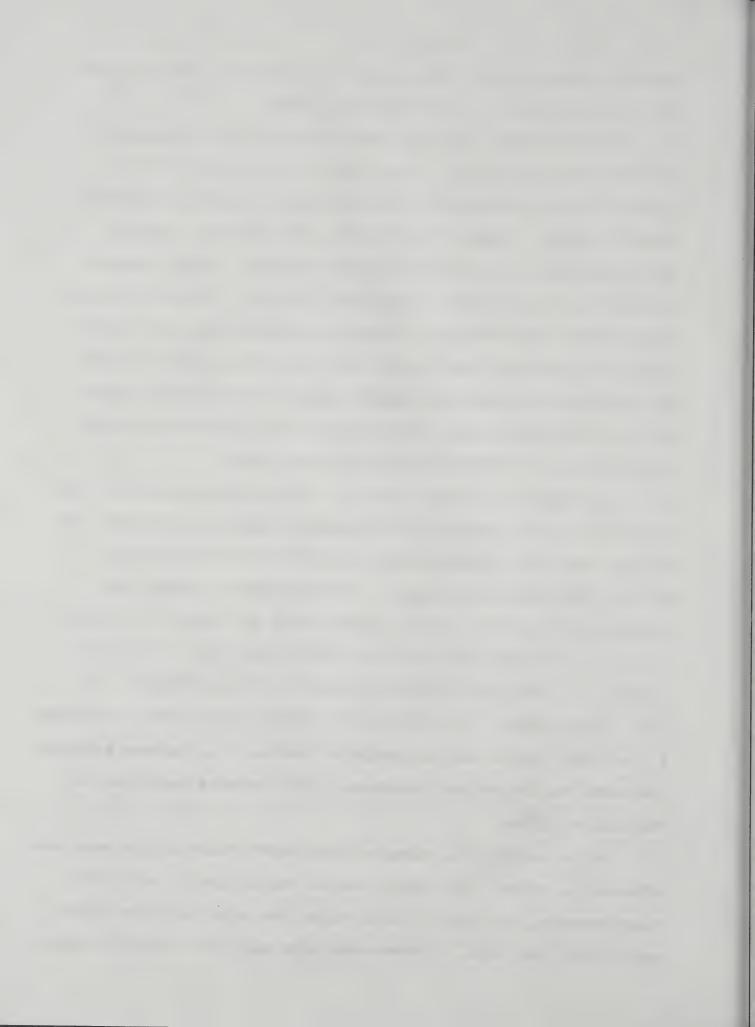


or so after laine was ablished as a bruke.

country with an Gx term. They spent the winter of 1823 on Racoon Greek, Indiana, and then came on to Endorus, arriving Worch 7, 1824. Henry Titus Sadorus, the youngest for was born during the trip from Indiana to Illinois, Henry Cadorus crossed the Pause river at Clinton, land and, and passed through Cherry Point bear Christian, Illinois, History cove and hymn Grove, and the next stop was at the Harve that bears his name. The Indiana had burned the prairie grass in the fall to drive the dear into the woods. There was no food for the exem and they could go no further until new grass came.

south ead of the grove and in a deserted cabin in the north end of the grove the Sadorus family moved to rest before going to the "big prairie" on west. They planted a garden and hunted game for their feed. Joseph Smith had 500.00 in silver to pay for his land when he found what suited him. He wanted to locate on a mavigable river and chose Ft. Clark, (Peoria) on the Illinoir river. He offered his cabin and clearing to Sadorus in he would had a load of goods to Peoria. Er. Sadorus accepted and moved to the present location of the Sadorus homestood in the fall of 1834.

In the apring, the slowers from Cherry Point to the west were cuivaln; in water. The whole prairie was a alough during the rainy easens, millions of wild water food covered these waters can enting and fall. There were many bog below where to velous



nared down and Bonry Sederate Lond Several yoke of over and a long chain to paid travelers out of the cad. A yoke of our a could have a vacon but ten or fifteen miles a day. In 1834 there was not a house negror than Provide and Tabab river or Eugene, Indiana.

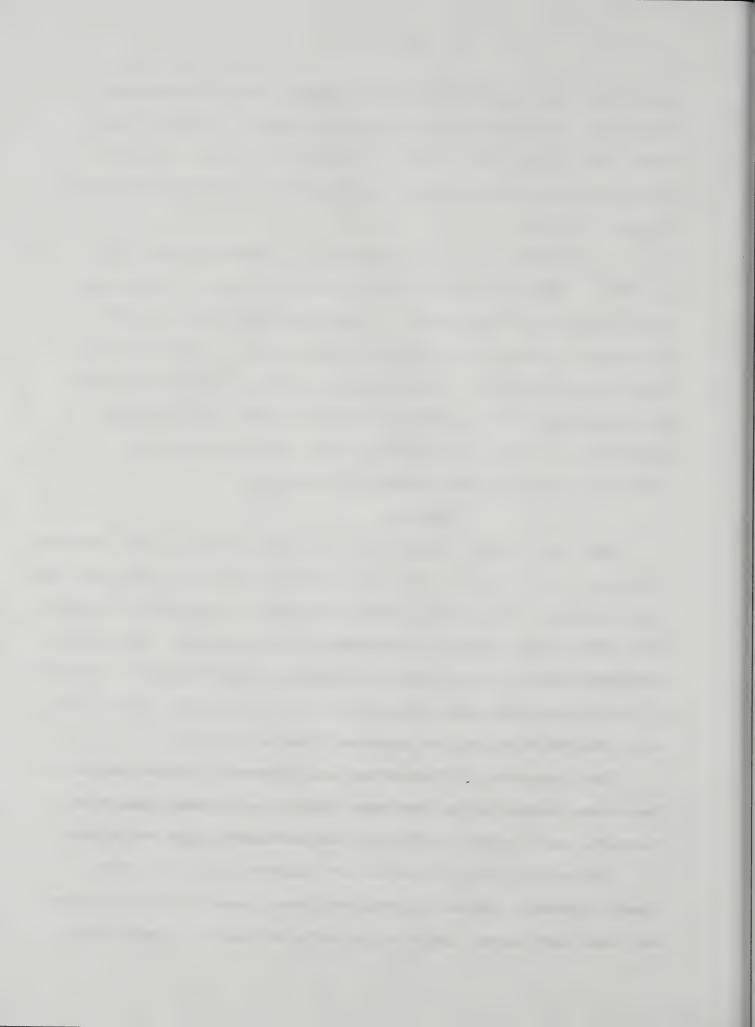
in 1827. Indians halped to raise his log house. Urbana was then called the "Hig Grove." A settler came there is 1824 and built a shanty but he left the same year. Danville was the nearest neighbor. Henry Sadorus west to femilia to enter his first land. The government required gold and that was difficult to geoure where things were sold by barter or "wild cat" money was the medium of exchange.

#### Indiana

Thinois, it was to the sound of a peculiar boosing make out over the prairies. They were greatly clarmed and expected an ettack from Indians and perhaps a massacre by the savages. The nounds continued but no Indians were in eight and the family was relieved of their fears when they discovered the sounds were made by the wild prairie chickens, so abundant then in Illinois.

The Wickapeos, Pottavutonies and Delaware Indians housed in the Garve, wintering in Couthern Illinois and going clong the Nachaskia each opring to fish in the northern lakes and rivers.

The Indians never troubled the Andorns Indian but were always friendly and the Sadorns children played with the Indian children that passed their cabin while on hunting empeditions.



once an Indian stole the cow bell from the Sadorus family cow and another Indian told ir. Sadorus how the bad Indian sneaked up to the cow, cut the atrap and stole the bell. Once a band of Delawaye Indians were cut on a hunting empelition and stopped at the Sadorus cabin. That night they did a war dence on the punchesal floor. One Indian lay on the floor while the others denced around his driving their knives into the floor about the prostrate man. The Indians had been drinking; one was quite drunk and then he thrust his knife his band slives down the sharp blade and the pala was cut to the bone. This ended the deace and solered the crowd. Ir. and has darked dressed the wound as best they could — the others went their way shile the injured one stayed on until his hand was healed. A year later he returned with a big pack of furs to pay for his board and care.

his grist to mill. The day he left, a lone Indian of styling a keg of whickey came to the cabin and said, "Lon come may square may get sick — Indian stay till man come brok." The Indian knocked in the head of the keg and with a gourd for a disper began to drink; then drunk, he alept and bra. Sadorus helped his empty the keg by throwing out one disper of whistey for each one he drank. The whiskey keg was empty about the time Mr. Sadorus returned from the mill. The whickey gone, the Indian left, but returned a year later with 25 coon mins to pay for his board.

A half-bread Indian with three or four vives and several children, among them a few grown maidens, did not travel around with the other Indians. They were an outcast family and spent

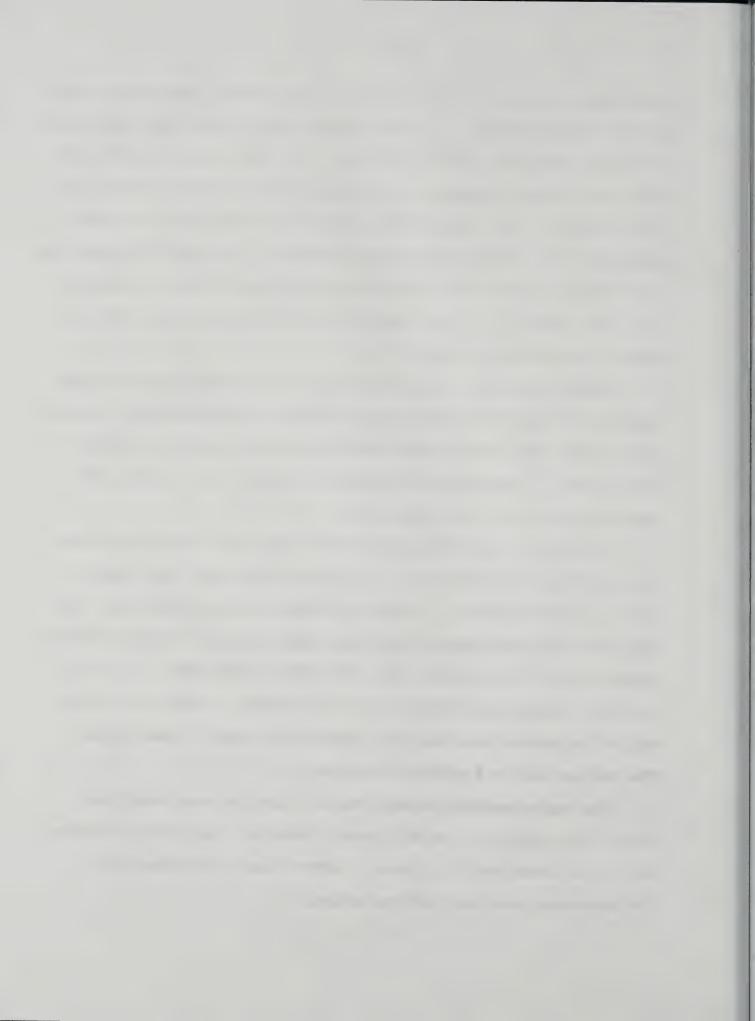


of the Sadorus cabin. A lose Indian came up the trail and spent the night with the Sadorus Pacily. The next day he said he was going to get him a squar, meaning one of the Buidens camped in Warth Grove. At a burned tree stump he painted his face with charach. The little Sadorusses wanted to know the the painted tract and the little Sadorusses wanted to know the thirt and the little Sadorusses wanted to know the painted had refused to make Indian heap more protty so make heap here likes. A few days little he returned alone and said maiden had refused to make little.

During the Black Hark War a band of warriors going to join Black has passed the Saderas cabin and comped there long enough to wear out the grind stone while charpening their tomahawks and buives. Though on the war-yeth, looking for scales, the Caforas Isnily were not milested.

Deyton, Onio to Springfield, Illinois by ox toems and stayed at the Sadorus cabin. It was late fall when he returned, the prairies had been burned; the deer hunt was on. Several Indian tepeca datted the present site of Sadorus cemetery. The old nen were fishing and the square were washing in the Maskaskia, while the brayes were hunting deer at the boad of the Grove. The Indians did not offer to molest.

The main camping grounds for the Indians were near the Bader farm north of the village of Caderus. Hany Indian relics have been found on this Land. After Black Work's war, no Indians came near the Sadorus cabin.



#### RAPTOUL IN THE PICHER DAYS

by Latio Bois Day Karvey, Illinois

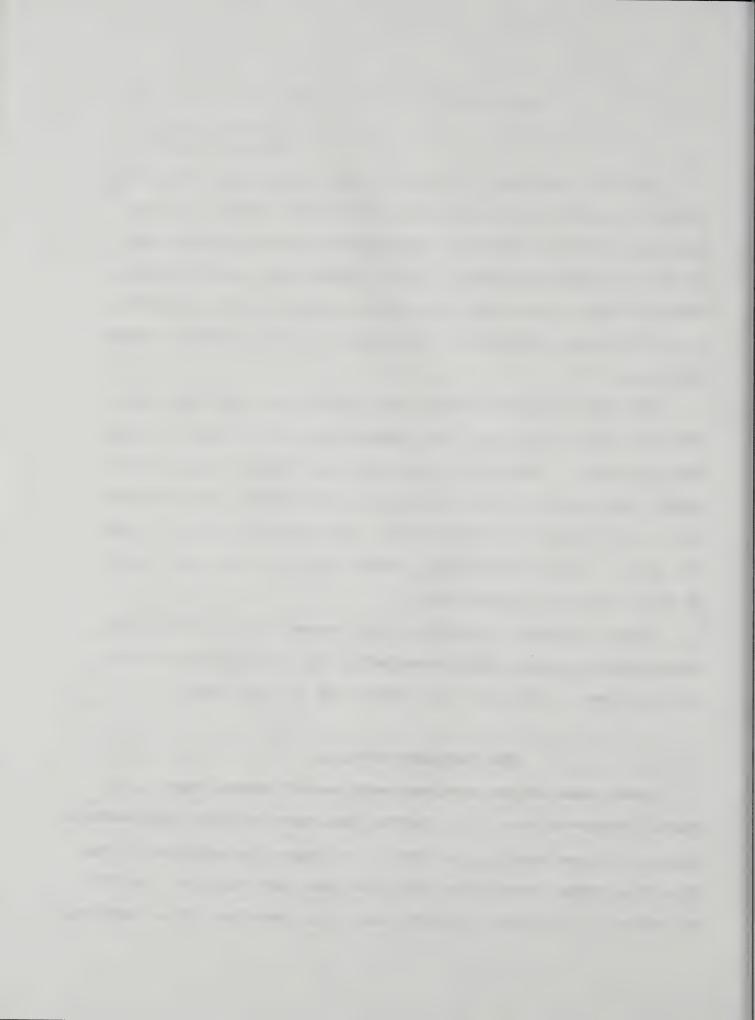
In 1835, just west of Rantoul there was a grove which the Indians called Hearest, remning where minim about. It was the only timberland between the Sangeron River and Salt Fork. In that year trade Camebell, who I believe was from Michigan, settled there and was the first white settler in the district. In 1848 the name Mink Grove was adopted for this slowly growing settlement.

stations to be need, and cope unusual ways were used in choosing the names. Years ago I was told that Toloro, Tuscola and Arcola were need by two Illinois Central clerks, each cheesing every other letter of their names, then combining then to make the names. Sounds reasonable, doesn't it? For who ever heard of those names any place else?

Massachusetts, was a heavy stockholder in the Illinois Central at that time, so his name was chosen for the new town.

#### THE EARLIEST SETTLERS

Among some of the earliest settlers of Rantoul were L. L. Hicks (father of Mrs. S. S. Smith), who came in 1852; his brother-in-law, Gilbert Martin, in 1853; J. W. Dodge (grandfather of the late Mrs. Edith Hampel) in 1855; John and Day Penfield, in 1856; my father, J. J. Bois, in 1857; and J. L. Benedict, John Youghton,



Post families were among other early settlers.

Soven families erro from Kentucky in 1856 and settled near the castern bearings of the termship and for any pure that lo-cality was known as the Kentucky Sottlement. Of these seven had lies, only one is now represented in Bantoul--James Chithers (father of John Swithers) was the only one of the group that remained.

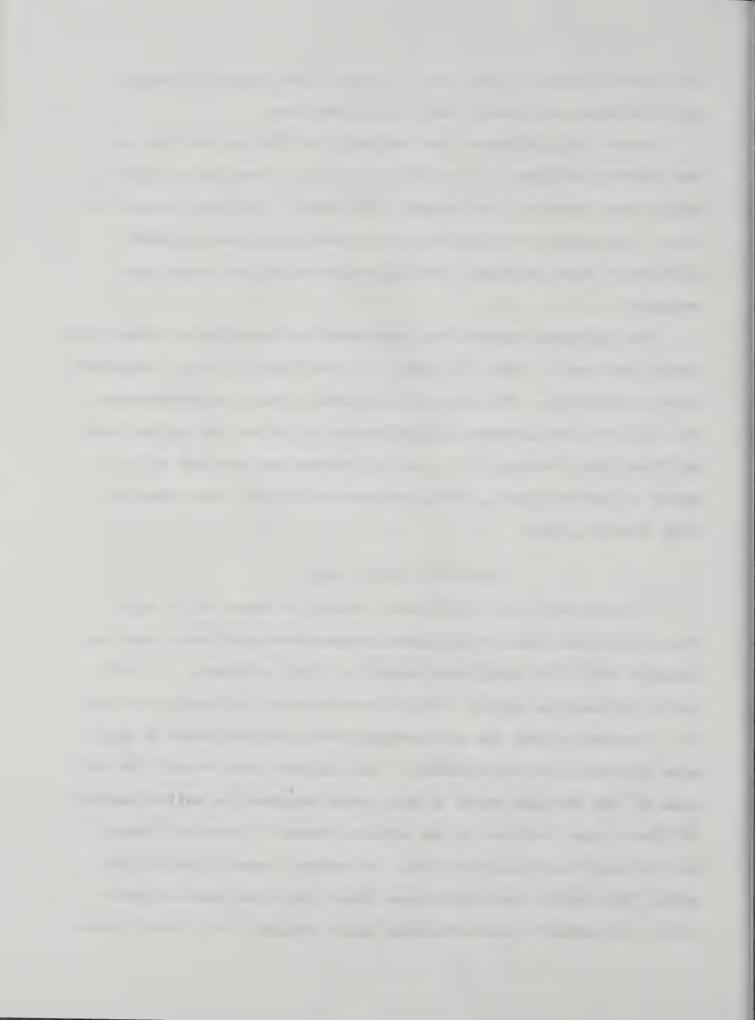
The Illinois Central was completed to Charmaign and the first train ran over it July 26, 1854. Our Penfield acted as temperary agent at Rantoul. My uncle, R. Stockwell, was a superintendent of the road and through his influence my father and mother came out from East Aurora, N. Y., and my father was checked in as agent at Rantoul May 1, 1857, and was still with them when he died June 10, 1893.

#### EVERYORE STOPPED WORK

I have heard many interesting tales of those early days.

Every depot was built with living rooms above and house rent was included with the munificent salary of \$35 per month. A train coming in was the signal for all work to stop and everyone watch it. One day a girl who was working for my mother heard a train come in while she was dressing. She did not stop to add the balance of the 20-plus yards of dry goods required in polite society of those days, but ran to the window, threw it open and lesned out to watch the modern wonder. My mother, greatly herrified, said, "Why Sally, don't you know those train men can see you?"

And to my mother's consternation Sally replied, "Ch, I don't care,



they will think it is you."

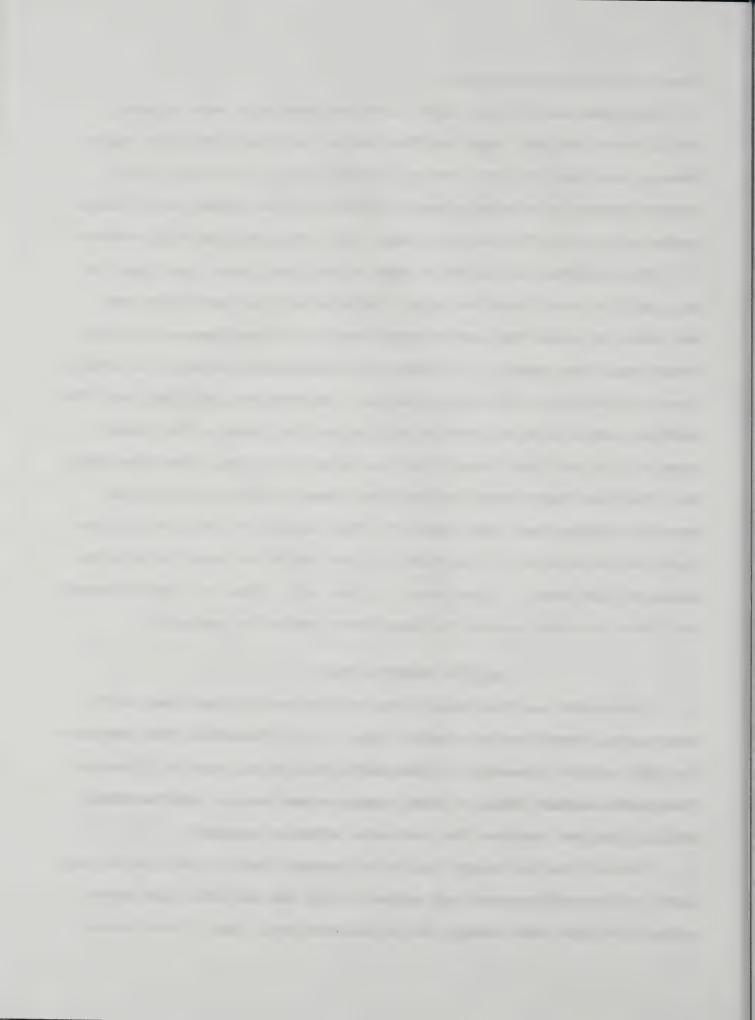
trial to my father. One was thereon the boys who were a great trial to my father. One was thereon I. Foot, the in later years became provident of the large and Books Commany, Chicago, and Boraco Scaver, who made a record as one of the sufert and factors engineers on the Illinois Control. In. Post told so this story--

The railroad had a water tank where the lumber yard used to be, and the boys leved to swim. Outside of the tank there was no place to sain—the swamps were too full of analog—so to the water tank they went. By father did everything he could to break them of the habit, but to no avail. One day when unliking past the tank he saw a pile of boy's clothing on the ground. Be picked them all up and took them into the depot with him. When the boys had finished their swim and get back down to the ground there were no clothes and they couldn't find any so Kr. Post said they took to the middle of the read and you could not see the boys because of the dust. These boys, by the way, lived on "Main Street" and from that day seemed to lose their taste for swirming.

#### DOCTOR STOPPED TRAIN

You could see the headlights of the trains when they left Champaign. One time my sister, Mrs. F. E. Pinkerton, was sorious—ly sick and Dr. Howard, of Champaign, was on his way to Chicago. The train waited while he went upstairs and made a professional call. Can you imagine the Seminole being so humane?

During the war there was no telegraph station, so the trains went so far and atopped and waited until the one from the opposite direction came along, be it an hour or a day. There was a



troop train, containing the Board of Irado Hattery, held up in Banke I for according the Those young elects were related the meet of that was to them a lark. They get seed up all of the chickens receive; in the hodges, and there was an all white home reaning around fown which they took along as a masest. From fellows, their lark didn't last long, as they were all at whool out in their first engagement.

The first death that occurred in this new settlement was that of Resetts S. Herrick, five-year-old daughter of J. T. Herrick, occuring in July, 1856.

nantoul was progressing. A telegraph office was established in 1864 and R. J. Udell was telegrapher from then until 1890. I can see him yet in my mind's eye reeding his researcs from a paper ribbon that passed from a big rell through the telegraph instrument and into a big basket on the other side.

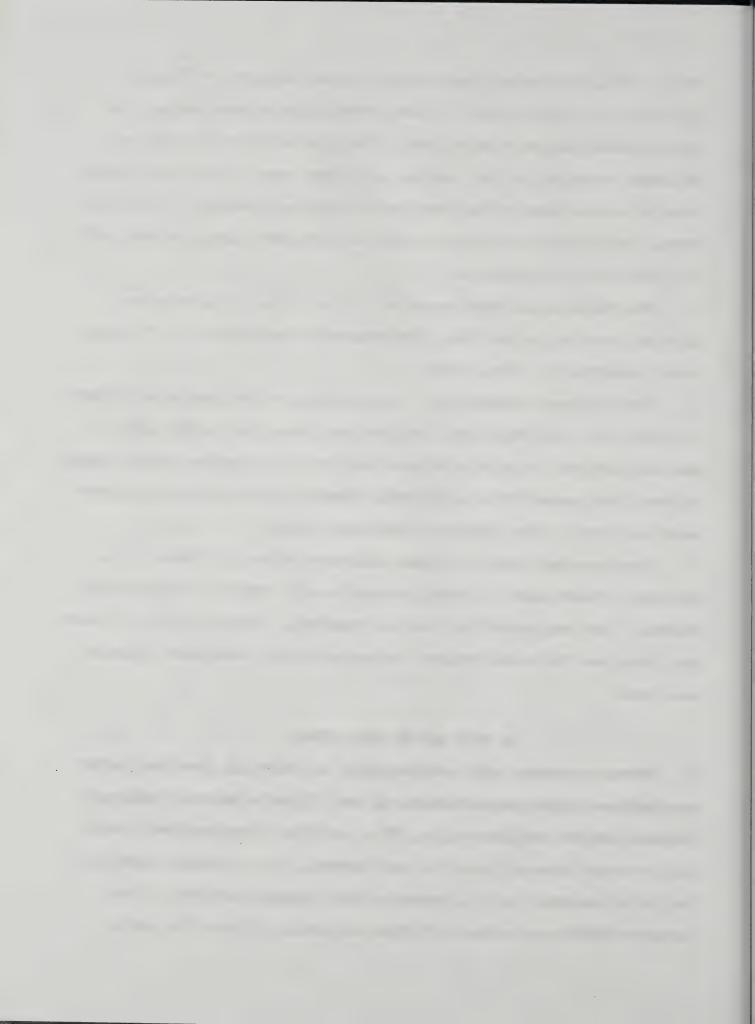
News was not sent over the tolograph wires in these Cays.

One day a train care in with the engine all draped in black and white. That was something new and strange. What did it all mean?

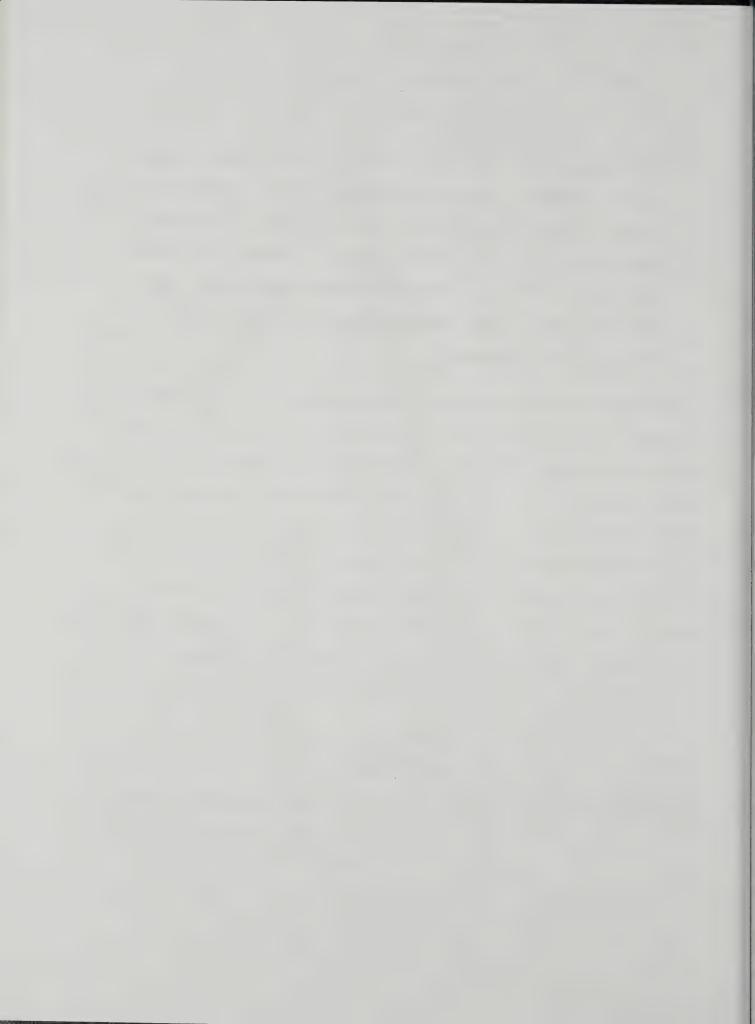
And thus was the news brought to Rantoul that President Lincoln was dead.

#### A WORD ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Three-quarters of a century ago, on July 13, the last spike was driven in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad between Ludlow and Champaign, Ill., and the first railway train was operated through what is now Rantoul, Ill. Rantoul owes its beginning as well as its name to the Illinois Central. The seventy-fifth anniversary of this beginning of what is new a



thriving and propessive community, gives lively interest to this article, which was written for the Rantoul Press. by Mrs. Wilber Day, Harvey, Ill., daughter of J.J.Bois, who was the Illinois Central agent at Rantoul for thirty-six years. It is a story of pioneer days by one who obtained many of her reminiscences from first hand contact with the pioneers.



## FOOSLAND A MONUMENT TO THE AGGRESSIVENESS OF THESE OR FOUR PIONEER FAMILIES

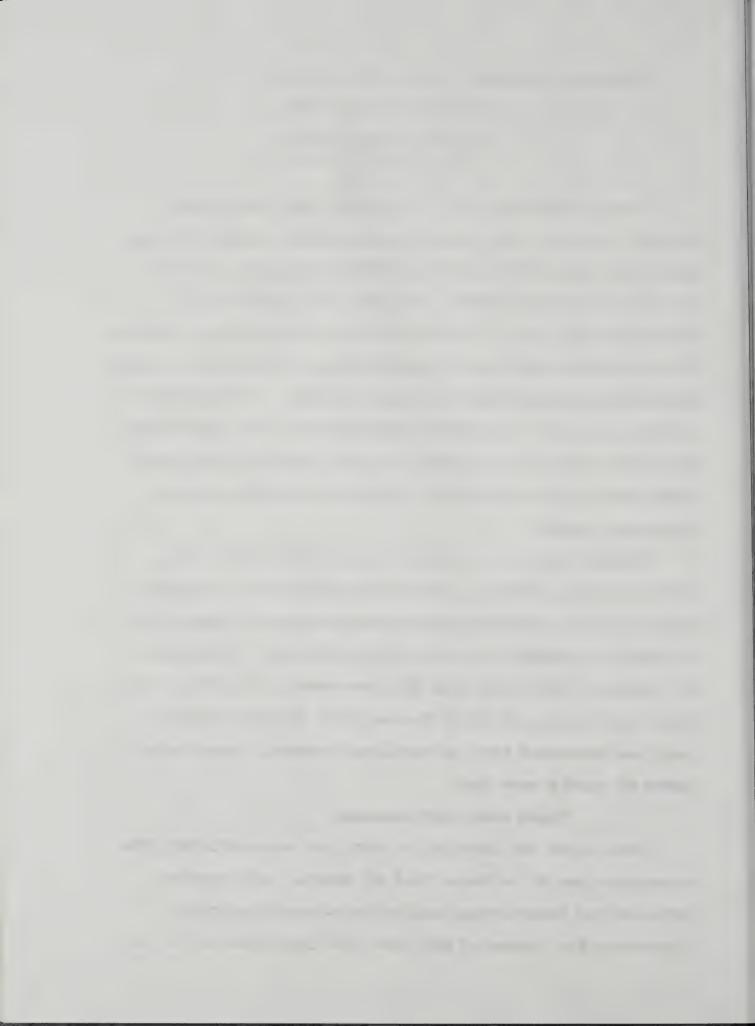
By: Mrs. Virgil Wolfe. Champaign News-Gazette Oct. 19, 1939

From a trackless maste of prairied and, water most of the year, to a peaceful, ency-joing country village, where could and chickens browse contentedly along the edge of the shaced main streets, has been the evolution of foosland during the 73 years which have passed since William Foos conceived the idea of establishing a town where nothing but swampy prairies had previously existed. Two hundred persons, many of them heavily burdened with the years which they have spent in and around Foosland, inhabit the little settlement, which lies in the extreme northwest corner of Champaign county.

with surprising boldness, decided to reclaim the lewlying area which had previously been considered quite undesirable by settlers seeking farms in the middle west. Purchasing 400 acres of this land from the government at \$1.25 per more Food dug ditches and built fences until the huge tract of land was converted into an excellent pasture, where large herds of cattle were fed.

There were rattlesnakes.

Even after the draining of the land was completed, its appearance was by no means that of today. Ratilesnakes infested the lower areas, making foot-travel hazardous. There were few houses of any kind, the farm house of J. N.



McClelland, 1850, one mile east of wint is now Foodeni, being one of the first. Fred Cohemberger was sout from Springfield to mange the estate for hr. Rees, and a line was erested for his one-laif mile north of the press. town.

In 1874 the Paintah railroad was built through the area owned by Mr. Food, and in 1875 a gang of men working under the direction of one, Peter Piunt, constructed a station at the side of the present town. While working on the station, Ex. Piumb boarded at the McClelland home east of town.

The Cracked Egg Story

Old residents are familiar with a story which is said to have originated at the time Mr. Plumb was steping at the Mo-Chelland bone. Mrs. McChelland, who had excellent results in the raising of turkeys, accidentally cracked two turkey care one day, while taking care of her setting hens.

"I'll bet you can't make those eggs hatch" said Ir.

Plumb, who had been watching her going about her work. But

Ers. NoClailand was game. "I'll just take you up on that,"

she retorted. She pasted small pits of paper over the

cracks and put the eggs back under the hens. Not long after
wards the eggs hatched, and Mr. Flumb made Mrs. McClelland

a present of a box of oranges.

Built First Home.

on a site covered with wild strawberries, rattlesnakes, and wild brandy, John Taylor built the first house on the present townsite and became the town's first settler. He it was who constructed most of the buildings which make up the town. Two grain elevators, a general store, and a black-smith shop were among the first structures erected in that town.



Walter Halliday, who came to Foorland from Scotland, was the first blackwhith in town, and Relson Taylor was the first store-keeper.

For many years Foosland children was forced to trapp two miles across the prairie to the villo. Bend achool house, directly north of the town. The early church services were also hald in this school house, and later it became a United Drothren church, after which a countery was started there. To this cemetery forcer citizens are still brought from other states for burial.

Certain to Prosper.

In a community of this size, where the growth has consisted largely of a gradual expansion from a small medicus, the history of the town is liable to center around the members of two or three families. One married couple, with a large family of children, can, almost single-handed, organize and develope a town. With two or three such families together, a town is almost certain to prosper.

Families of this kind to which Foosland will always owe a great debt of thanks, were the Ball family, the Pollock family, the Shields, the Nobles, and the DeLongs, all people of the greatest importance in the history of the town.

J. H. Pollock, familiarly known to the countryside as "Father Pollock", reared a family of seven sons and one daughter, all of whom grew to maturity and married in Foosland.

#### Established Church

"Father" Pollook was instrumental in establishing Methodiat



Instormal claribles is all of the melbot however within a tenmils redict of the town, and he used to prouch for them wetil they were able to obtain ministers.

The Chiefles Indity, which constituted of Mr. and tree Chiefles and their four daughters and five sons, played a large part in the development of the business, church, and social life of the community. Dembers of this family, must of whom have now moved away from the torm, coun back for annual visits.

the earliest days of its existence, reared a family of six sens and daughters, all of whom married here end several of whom have continued to take an active part in the life of the community. Hr. and Hrs. Ball are one, but one daughter, Hrs. Caroline Boyd, and two cons, Corley and Cliver Ball, remain in town.

Conducted First Store.

The Pollock family conducted the first general store in the torn, having bought out its builder, C. Dyer, of Mahomet, soon after he began it. The Pollock family in later years sold out to Walter and William Ritchie and Corloy Pall, and even later E. W. Bright and John Ritchie were added to the firm. Fire destroyed the original building, but a new one was exected and has stood until the present day. The genral store is now conducted by L. M. Pfoff, an old resident of the town.

The church has always been an extremely important factor in the life of the town. The first church building was constructed on the site of the present home of Alan DeLong, by the Dethodist Episcopal denomination. The first school, which

the noting, and room all in, standing those F. T. Beats' gar to is now include, was used as a place of country by the Christian description.

They Unite.

Unumilie a Nothedist Protestant chards was organized in the town, and a few years later the three descriptions unital, becoming a Nothedist Protestant organization and holding services in the former Nethodist Episcopal chards. A new building, which is still standing and is proudly pointed out by citizens of the town, almost all of whom are numbers of this charch, was exceed in the east part of town, and the old charch was used as a town hall until it was town down.

Twenty years ago a disastrous fire exert ever the term, destroying all of the business section, and a chort time later one of the elevators and the school house were destroyed by lightening. A large, new brick school house is now situated one-half nile east of town.

Those Early Citizens.

Winter to be evercome, made the dector's life one of continual sacrifice, but in the early years the needs of the community and of the countryside for miles around were faithfully met by Dr. H. L. Marris. The record of his service is only a part of the record of faithful performances on the part of all of the professional men who have been connected with the community, and the faithful performance of whose duties is so essential to the community's decelopment.

One of the first ministers in Footland was the Rev. R. F. For who died recently. He came to Footland in the early days when he was riding a circuit in this territory. Cometimes, it is



6

said, he proceded three times on the same dry in different nonmaintees. Multiple circuit frequently meant fording rivers, being stuck in the mal, looking efter the afek, and burying the doud, but the record of Fr. Fox is one of perfect farful and of his duties.

Proud of Their Record.

Doctors, dentists, ministers, college presidents, college professors, mil clerks, and what not have been went out from this little town, which is proud of their record in life.

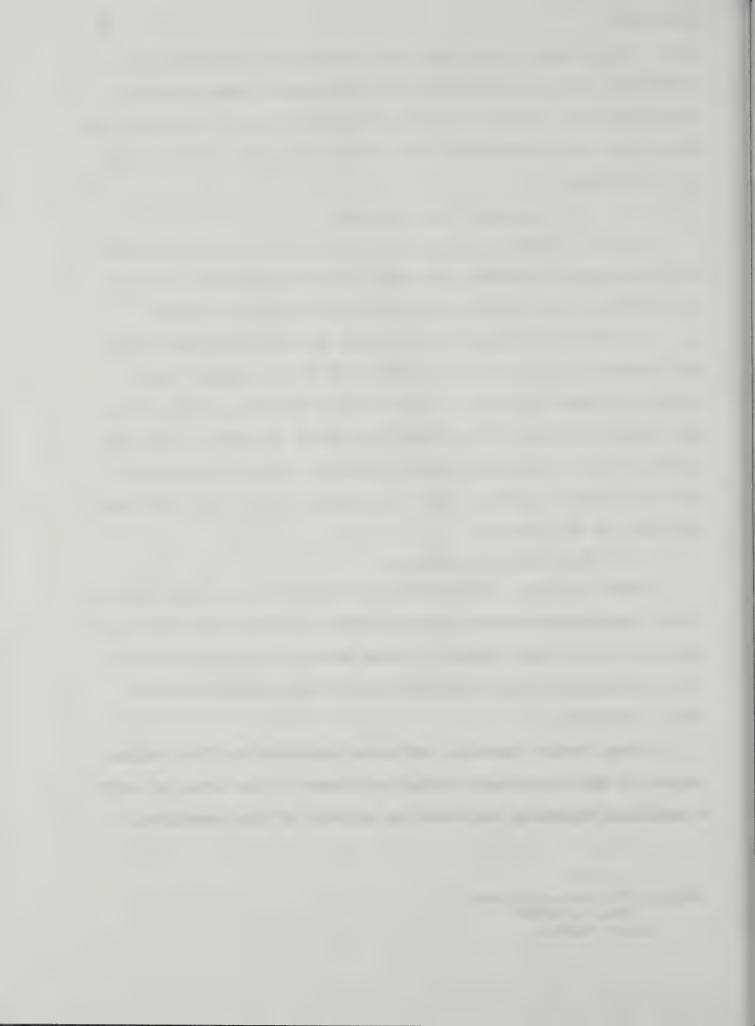
the world as a whole is not familiar with the names of such people as "Dan" Gallaban, "Aint Jennio" Ritchie, Corley Ball, and Arthur Leylins, all of whom have spent upwards of 55 years in this little community, their greatness is no less cartain for it is their constant work for improvement of the town which has made it what it is.

Still Familiar Figure.

FDans Callahan, who is now more than 50 years old, was the first restaurant owner in town and his checkful smile and ready wit are still as well known as they were in the days when he was serving hamburgers and cold pop over the counter to the hungry citizens.

"Aunt Jennie" Ritchie, the other claimant to distinction as one of the two oldest living residents of the town, is still a familiar figure up and down the streets of the community.

(Copied for Mrs. Carlock, Feb. 6, 1939 Emily Burks).



# MRS. SADORUS TELLS OF PIONEER DAYS IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

Robert L. Jacobs Champaign-News Gazette

When you go to Chicago in rearch of history you can't talk to Mrs. Chicago; neither can you find Mrs. Philadelphia or Mrs. New York when you go to those cities for the same purpose; but if, in your wanderings, you should chance to run into Sadorus, stopmin at the pratty little bome in the southwest part of town where Mrs. George Sadorus lives, and she will tell you how it happened that her grandfather-in-law came to settle more than one hundred years ago in the big grove of timber which eventually grew into the town bearing the family name.

Henry Sadorus, her grand-father-in-law, was the first settler in this part of the county, and the third man to set up permanent home in any part of Champaign County. Coming to what is now Sadorus from Indiana in 1824, this veteran of the War of 1812 was the forerunner of a family which has become so strongly established that its members will probably never cease to take part in the activities of Sadorus Township.

## Heard Many Stories

Mrs. Sadorus, who is 85, came to the town in 1857 with her parents, who had been living in Ohio. Dwelling among the original settlers of the town for several years before they began to disappear, she heard many stories of the early days and came to understand the difficulties which had been encountered in the building of her home.

"When my grandfather came to Sadorus there was no one here,



except Indians," Hrs. Sadorus said. "For two or three years, my father-in-law's only playmeter were Indian children and the other boys and girls of his own family. Then, in 1886, Henry Eving came and settled in the grove with his family, and this began a series of settlements which finally led to a town."

But the experiences of his. Saderus' early years by no means consisted entirely of these stories of the past. In the fall of the year after she came to Champaign County, she had an experience which has lived in her memory as one of the outstanding events of her life.

## Made Closing Address

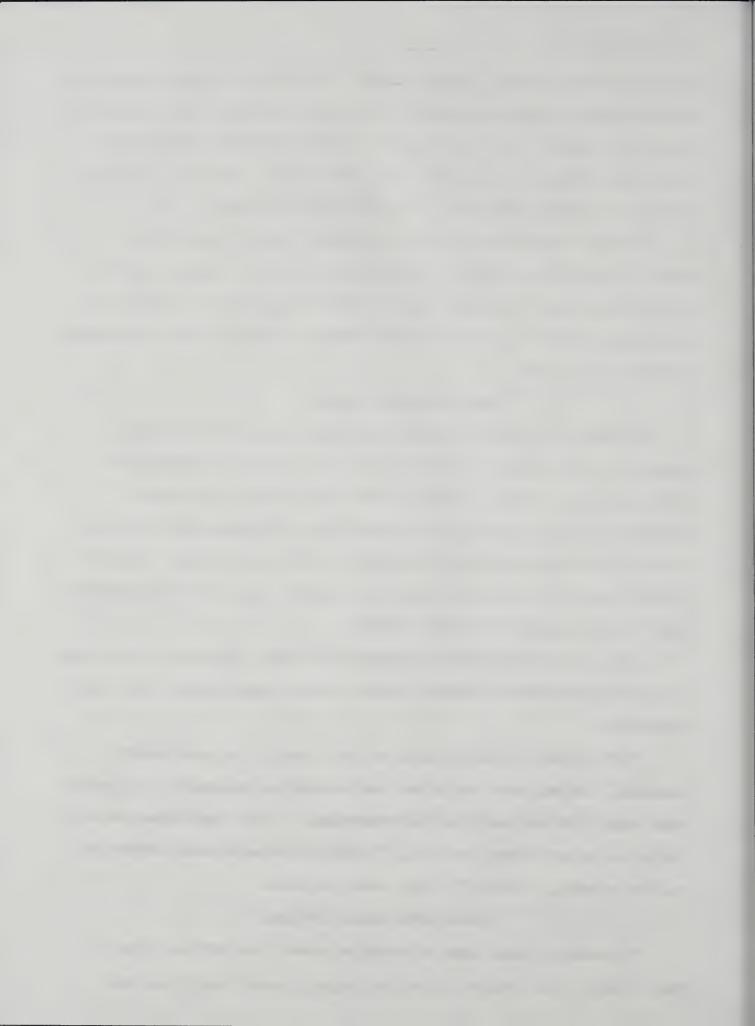
on Sept. 23, 1858, Stephen A. Douglas made the closing speech on the program of the county fair, held at the Urbana fair-grounds. Coming shortly after the last of the famous Lincoln-Douglas debates, this speech was of particular interest. But on the following day, although the fair had ended, Abraham Lincoln spoke in the same place and refuted many of the arguments made by his opponent the day before.

It is this event which stands out in Mrs. Sadorus' mind above everything else in her early years, for she was present for both addresses.

"Of course, in those days no one thought so much about Lincoln. He was seen so often and seemed so common to the people that they did not realize his greatness. If I had known he was going to be president so soon, I would have paid more attention to the speech, I think," Mrs. Sadorus said.

## Heard Lots about Indians

"I used to hear lots of stories about the Indians when I was a girl," she stated, speaking eagedly and clearly as she



touched upon subjects which were just as romentic to her 70 years ago as they are to the people of today.

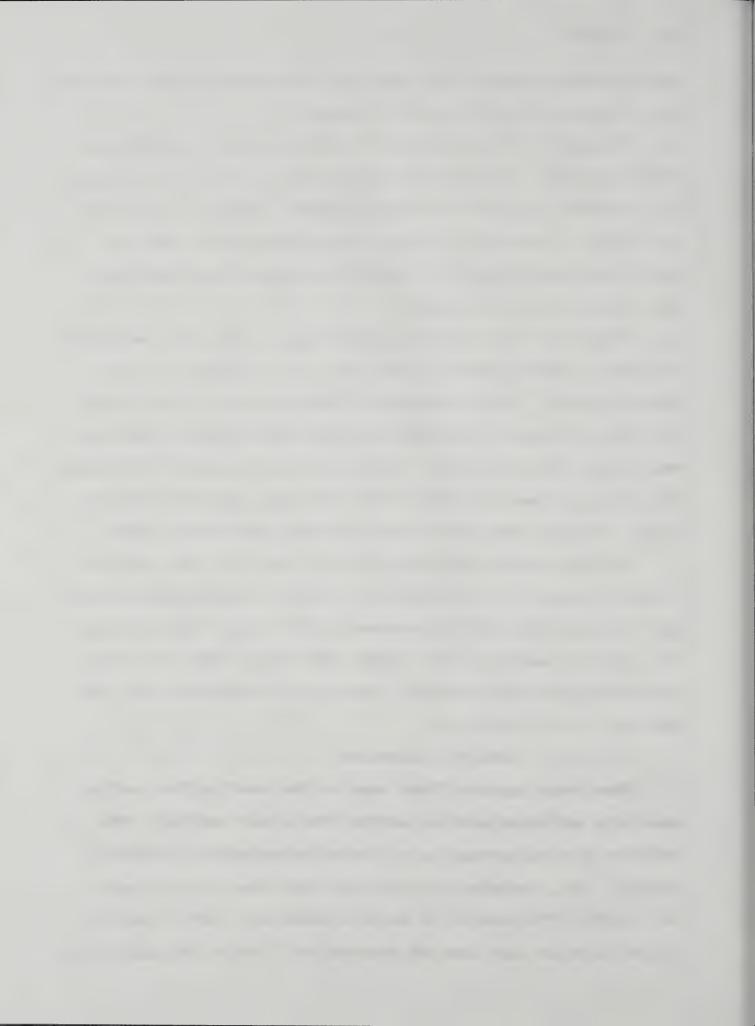
"There were not any mills in this territory and it was necessary to transport the grain 60 miles to Eugene, Indiana, where there was a mill. Faturally, the men were always gone a week or more after the harvest, and during this period the women were all alone with the children.

"Once when the men were away at Eugene, the women were left with only a small amount of corn meal for food until the men should return. On the evening of the second day after the men had left, a group of Indians came to my grandfather's house and walked in, askin: for food. My grandmother was quite frightened, but she gave them every bit of food she had, and after they had eaten, they lay down around the fireplace and went to sleep.

"In the morning when they woke up, they went out and shot a deer, dressed it, and brought it in for my grabdmother. During all the years when the Indians were still around this country, the settlers never had any trouble with them. When the tribes came through on the war-path, however, the settlers always hid and kept out of their way."

#### Land Was Unlimited

When Henry Sadorus first came to the locality the land was seemingly unlimited and was selling for almost nothing. His ambition knew no bounds, so he bought up everything for miles around. Mrs. Sadorus tells of a man who came to settle with his family: "He started to build a cabin in a little grove of timber 15 miles away from my grandfather's bouse; my grandfather



role over there one day and said to him, "Nant's the idea of nettling right in my front yards" but he held the man a strip of lead there and let him go shead——awary one was alad to get new relighbours in those days, as a stally man they were so close by."

A place hear the Okew river, hald a mile north of the village, was a favorite resort of the Indians every autum. Here they encaped and avaited the coming of the deer and other game when they were driven by the prairie fires from the open country into the timber. Even after Mrs. Sadorus came to the town, which really took shape with the establishment of the railroad through this district in 1353, Indians occasionally came through the town on their way to the various graveyards where their dead had been buried before the white man had usured the land.

(Copied for Mrs. Carlock Jan. 18, 1939 by Emily Burks.)



Fintony and Ulrectory of Charmigs County, Thinsin.

J. S. Lothrop, - 1971. Page 355.

One William Blanchard, a Congregational minister, prenched the first server in Charpeign City, and established the first church - the Congregational Church of this city, and the first house of worship was erected by that church in 1885, at a cost of about 11,000. It is known as the Goose-pand church, as it stood near a pend of water frequented by those bipeds. The old building still stanks there, but no pend, that having given place to rows of business houses. It is now completely the German Cottolic congregation. The next church erected was in , by the Prosbyterians, the same being now used as a school building by the Young Ladies Seminary Association of this city. The building cost 52,000.

The Lutheran Church was erected the next on Columbia street, in 1850, at a cost of about (700, and it is still occupied by that organization. The Catholic church, on the east side of the track, was built about the same time, costing about \$700. This has since been enlarged and improved, at a cost of nearly \$10,000.

The Methodist church, at corner of Church and State streets, was built in 1831, costing about \$4,000, and about \$1,000 in buildings have been added to it since that time. It is a commodious building, yet far too small for the numbers that worship within its walls. The new Congregational church was next. It was built in 1833

on Fall porcet, and cour show 115,000. It is a most, substantial building.

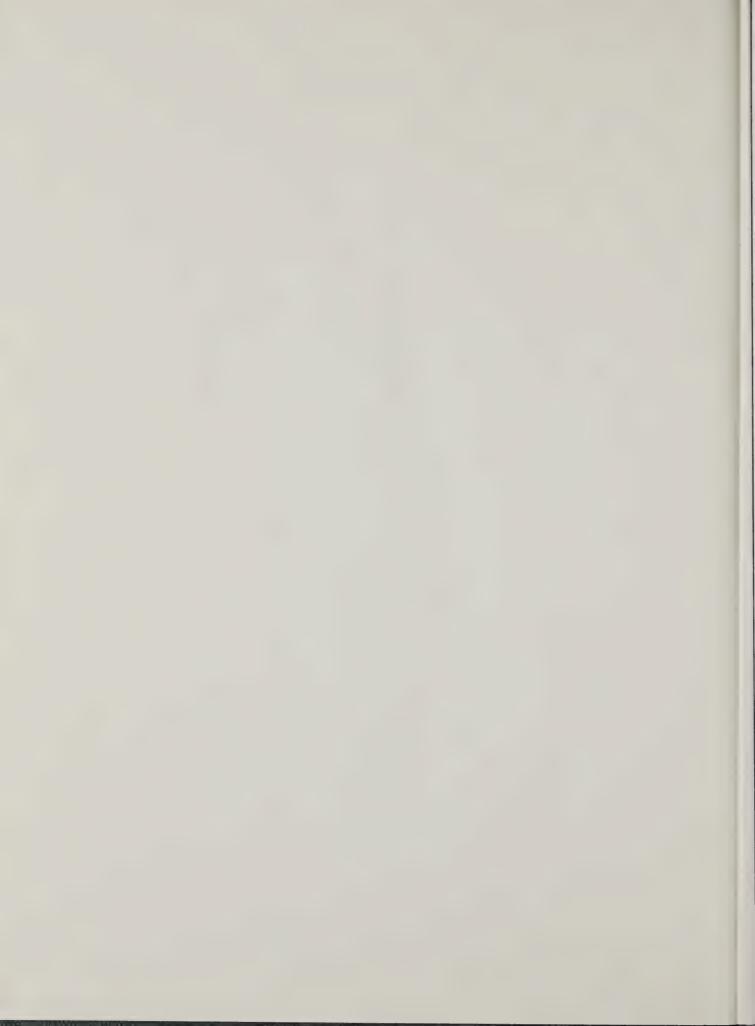
The next in order was the Dutch Neferbed church, erected in 1863, on east side of track, at a cost of \$2,000. The colored Methodist enurch, is 1864 was next; it cost \$500, and is also located on the east side.

The Baptist church was the next built, at the comer of State and Park Streets in 1865 at a cost of about (1.500. This building was used for school purposes as well as clarch and has since been changed to a residence. The Christian church was built about the same time on University Avenue costing about (500. It has since been neld and remodeled for a residence. The new Prespyterian church, a fine brick. 105 feet by 60 feet, was next erected and occupied in 1809, the entire cost being about \$40,000, and stands at the corner of State and Mill streets. The same year was built the new Dentist church, at corner of Randolph Street and University Avenue, costing about 014,000. It is a very meat, substant tial frame building. Also, in that year, which does not appear to have been a very good year for churches, the Second Methodist church was built, fiear the State University, costing about 03,000. The colored Daptist, built their church in 1870, the same costing about \$700. Thus it will be seen that fourteen churches have been erected in the city, cleven of which are still being used for church purposes. Others will seen be erected by the Ipiscopal and other denominations, now worshiping in the public halls of the city.

(Copied Feb. G. 1939 for Mrs. Carlock).

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